FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 AUGUST 1983

PLO Affairs

PCC Meeting -- The Palestine Central Council (PCC) began its meeting in Tunis and is expected to discuss the latest developments in the Palestinian arena and the possible summoning of an "urgent" session of the PNC, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and "all the Palestinian resistance representatives" except for the PFLP-General Command attended the session, according to Radio Monte Carlo. The Council decided to have the Executive Committee form a committee to supervise a cease-fire between Fatah dissidents and loyalists.

Meanwhile, dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha announced that his group will not abide by any decisions reached by the PCC under 'Arafat, KUNA stated. Col Musa also denied reports of heavy fighting in the Al-Biqa' and at the same time accused 'Arafat supporters of initiating the clashes.

Al-Biqa' Situation — Clashes resumed in the Al-Biqa' between Fatah loyalists and dissidents, Beirut radio announced. Meanwhile, a Fatah artillery battalion defected to the dissidents, according to Radio Monte Carlo and JANA. In another development, Baghdad Voice of PLO denounced Syrian "interference" in Palestinian affairs, citing Syrian statements of support for the Fatah dissidents.

Lebanon

Military Situation — The IDF redeployment has begun, Jerusalem radio announced. However, a Lebanese military source denied the report and stated that IDF troops have not begun to redeploy, according to AFP. An Israeli spokesman cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon also dismissed the report and said Israeli troop movements were "purely routine."

In southern Lebanon the IDF decided to lift the blockade of the Phalangist camp near Sidon, Jerusalem radio reported. The IDF does not intend to leave the camp, the radio added, and will "ensure" that the Phalangists and civilians currently in the camp leave within the "next few days." In another development, IDF and Syrian forces again exchanged fire in the Al-Biqa', according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Political Developments — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens held separate meetings with U.S. envoy Robert Mcfarlane at which both rejected the Lebanese demand for a detailed timetable for Israeli withdrawal to the international border, Jerusalem radio stated. McFarlane and Shamir also discussed the Lebanese postponement of the agreement ratification, the radio added.

Libya-Chad

The Libyan Air Force continued to bomb the northern Chadian town of Faya-Largeau, carrying out three raids which caused more casualties and destruction, the Chadian information minister informed journalists in Ndjamena in a statement reported by SUNA. A French surgeon working in the Chadian capital disclosed that wounded government troops evacuated from Faya-Largeau have sustained "horrendous" burns from phosphorous bombs, according to AFP.

Libyan Secretary for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi told African ambassadors in Tripoli that reports of Libyan air attacks on Faya-Largeau are "false accusations" aimed at disrupting Libya's attempts to secure a cease-fire in Chad sponsored by the OAU, JANA noted. JANA also reported that former President Goukouni Oueddei's forces captured the Chadian minister of public works, who "confirmed" the death of President Hissein Habre.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces inflicted further heavy losses on the enemy in the central sector, killing 2,410 Iranians and destroying 13 tanks, Iraq announced in a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. The Iraqi commander in the Zurbatiyah area said his forces have foiled the Iranian offensive, during which over 6,500 Iranians have died, according to INA. Meanwhile, a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio said Iranian forces repulsed six Iraqi attacks in the southern sector west of Khorramshahr, causing over 450 Iraqi casualties. Although the Iranian communique said an Iraqi plane was downed by Iranian antiaircraft fire, the Iraqi communique reported that all Iraqi aircraft returned safely to base after raiding Iranian positions.

In another development, the Iraqi commander in the northern sector accused Syrian "agents" of assisting the Iranians during their recent offensive in the mountainous Hajj 'Umran area, according to INA.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni told provincial governors-general that they should have "good relations and a mutual understanding" with the clergy and that they should support the prime minister and the government. Islam would be harmed if the governors were to disagree with the government, and it would likewise be a "calamity" if differences between the governors and the clergy became public knowledge, Khomeyni added in his speech broadcast by Tehran radio. He reaffirmed the need for internal unity in light of Iran's isolation from the outside world, where "almost nobody is in agreement with us, and those who are in agreement are so in words only."

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia has not demarded a reduction in the number of Iranian pilgrims and has accepted about 85,000 Iranians for this year's pilgrimage, Pilgrimage Affairs and Awqaf Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi stated at a press conference reported by Riyadh radio. He also denied Iranian claims that the Kingdom has obstructed Iran's attempts to secure accommodation for its pilgrims and that the Saudis have reduced the number of flights available to transport them. Al-Wasi reaffirmed Saudi criticism of recent behavior by Iranian pilgrims, asserting that attempts to cause "chaos, confusion, and clashes" are contrary to Islamic principles and violate the Kingdom's security.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Minisummit in Saudi Arabia — Saudi King Fahd, Jordanian King Husayn, and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will attend a minisummit in At-Ta'if in "the next few days," according to Abu Dhabi press reports cited by QNA.

Ties With Egypt — The Kuwait *Arab Times* urged the Arab world to restore relations with Egypt, pointing out that many Arab countries now enjoy diplomatic relations with Egypt, whose presence at summit conferences in the past "proved beneficial."

Afghanistan

A DRA Foreign Ministry source rejected Pakistani claims that DRA forces have violated Pakistani airspace and territory, Kabul radio reported. The source went on to accuse the Pakistani Government of trying to disguise its "aggressive actions" with "transparent lies and political fabrication."

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'Minisummit' To Be Held in At-Ta'if Soon

GF031016 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 3 Aug (QNA) — Press reports indicated here today that a minisummit is about to be held in the next few days in the Saudi city of At-Ta'if, and that it will be attended by Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Jordanian King Husayn, and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Quoting Arab diplomatic sources, the newspaper *Al-Fajr* said this comes following intensive efforts among the three capitals within the framework of the Saudi efforts to clear up the Arab atmosphere through elimination of differences and through uniting the ranks vis-a-vis the Israeli practices. The sources expect that this summit will have important results on the Arab level. These sources also reported that efforts are being exerted to clear up the atmosphere between Syrian President al-Asad and 'Arafat and indicated that there are great hopes for a reconciliation between them and thus, a change in the course of events in the region.

PLO Central Council Meeting Begins in Tunis

JN040653 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] The 2-day meeting of the PLO Central Council began in Tunis yesterday under the chairmanship of Khalid al-Fahum and in the presence of Yasir 'Arafat and all the Palestinian resistance representatives, with the exception of the PFLP-GC. George Habash, PFLP secretary general, and Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] were among those present. 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee official spokesman, said that the presence of representatives from all the Palestinian resistance factions prove their adherence to the unity of the Palestinian resistance.

The first ruling of the meeting was that the Council decided to entrust the PLO Executive Committee with the formation of a committee to supervise the cease-fire between the Fatah loyalists and dissidents.

Dissident Joins Fatah Delegation

JN040841 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 4 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Tunis — It has been learned that Muhammad Abu Mayzar (alias Abu Hatim), was chosen as one of Fatah's nine representatives to the PLO Central Council [PCC]. It is well-known that Abu Hatim is an ardent supporter of the reform proposed by the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa] group.

Rebel Leader Sa'id Musa Rejects PCC Decisions

LD040004 Kuwait KUNA in English 1836 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Anjar, Lebanon, Aug 3 (KUNA) — Colonel Sa'id Musa, leader of the opposition wing breaking away from the mainstream Palestinian command movement Al-Fatah, announced Wednesday his group will not abide by any decision the Palestine Central Council (PCC) would adopt under the movement's leader Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis.

Musa, better known by his code-name of Abu Musa, made the announcement to reporters at an artillery base here, the commander and personnel of which joined the "uprising" earlier in the day. Musa, who revolted last May against 'Arafat's policies, invited the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman for arbitration within Al-Fatah institutions.

The PCC's scheduled meeting in Tunis was called by 'Arafat to tackle the intra-Fatah conflict. The 81-member PCC serves as a mini-parliament-in-exile which follows up abidance by the PLO of resolutions adopted by the full-fledged parliament-in-exile, the 399-seat Palestine National Council (PNC).

Musa denounced calls for setting up a Palestinian government-in-exile, saying such a move would mean liquidating the Palestinian revolution. He also rejected suggestions of an Arab summit conference to tackle Al-Fatah's dispute, and said these are means to evade resolving the problem within Al-Fatah.

On the fighting between the two wings of Al-Fatah in the Al-Biqa' valley, he said reports of heavy fighting were inaccurate, and at the same time he blamed 'Arafat's supportersfor opening fire each time clashes erupted. "The fighting is instigated by persons who receive money from outside Lebanon and are directed by very remote leadership, he said without elaboration. He further accused 'Arafat's supporters of trying to shift the Al-Fatah rift to an Arab level. "Those also aim at eliminating our real struggle against the Zionist enemy by eventually causing the Palestinian forces to be evacuated from Lebanon," he added.

'Arafat Sends Appeals to Gandhi, Mengistu

JN031724 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has appealed to nonaligned countries and the OAU to work for halting the crimes to which the Palestinian people are being subjected in the occupied territories. This appeal is contained in two messages sent by 'Arafat to Mrs Gandhi, Indian prime minister and current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, and Haile Mariam Mengistu, Ethiopian president and chairman of the OAU.

'Arafat Receives Italian Delegation, Letter

AU032006 Rome ANSA in English 1925 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] (ANSA) — Rome, August 3 - A delegation of high-ranking Italian Communists assured Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat of their party's full support during a meeting in Tunis yesterday, a communique released at party headquarters here said today. The statement said 'Arafat briefed the two members of the mission on recent developments in Lebanon and the Middle East, warning against Israeli moves to dismember Lebanon.

The two Italian Communists were identified as the head of the

party's International Bureau, Giancarlo Pajetta, and another member of the party leadership, Antonio Rubbi.

'Arafat also deprecated the split in the PLO's ranks in the Al-Biqa' valley on the basis of the differences that have arisen between the PLO and Syria.

According to the communique, the Italian delegation handed over a letter from Italian Communist Party Secretary Enrico Berlinguer. The letter, like the delegation, urged Palestinian unity and independence, as well as Arab unity, as the "indispensable condition of the affirmation of the Palestinian cause". The letter said the same condition was needed to ensure Lebanese integrity and independence and for achieving peaceful recognition for the rights to existence and security of all the Middle Eastern peoples.

According to Pajetta, the Italian Communists will take steps with the Italian and other EC governments for Europe to play a more active and independent role in seeking a negotiated solution to the crisis.

Palestinian Clashes Continue in Al-Biqa'
NC032012 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] It is reported from Al-Biqa' that clashes among the warring Palestinians resumed tonight in Ta'nayil and Ta'labayya.

Artillery Battalion Joins Fatah Dissidents
LD032159 Tripoli JANA in English 1855 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, Shawal 24, August 3 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The second heavy artillery battalion in Fatah, led by Major Ahmad Abu Husayn, today announced that it is joining the new revolutionary movement in Fatah. A statement put out by the leader of the battalion said that his forces have put themselves at the service of the new movement's command in Fatah and pledged to continue the struggle until victory or martyrdom.

JANA's correspondent in Al-Biqa' said that the change over took place peacefully without a shot being fired contrary to 'Arafat and his followers' allegations.

Syrian Claims of Al-Biqa' Neutrality Refuted
JN031929 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1637 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Syrian claim that the Syrian authority and its intelligence organ have nothing to do with the disputes and internecine fighting in the Palestinian arena has been refuted from the very beginning by the Syrian tanks that have been besieging Fatah forces, offices, bases, and supply centers in Al-Biqa' and even in Damascus. We say that this claim no longer convinces even those who fabricated it among the Syrian officials, although they keep repeating it every now and then simply because the propaganda tactics of the liquidation design demand this. However, it has become clear that it is a hollow claim and that some Syrian officials do not like to repeat it. Among those offciials is 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who is described as the engineer of Syrian deplomacy.

Khaddam has frankly announced that Syria strongly stands alongside those whom he calls the opposition within Fatah. He added that Fata . is not the entire Palestinian revolution. Khaddam exposed more of his stand when he said that Syria stands alongside the opposition not only in Fatah but also in the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]. Opposition, according to Khaddam, is those affiliated with the Syrian intelligence organ and those trying to implement the objectives of the liquidatory design of destroying the revolution's forces as well as usurping independent Palestinian decisionmaking. To him, opposition also means those persons the Syrian authority wants to use as a card in its pocket as it continues to promote relations with the United States through the joint U.S.-Syrian working committees.

What matters, however, is discussing Syrian Minister Khaddam's understanding of opposition. What counts is the fact that the Syrian authority strongly stands alongside those he described as opposition.

This is a frank confession of interfering in internal Paelstinian affairs. The helpless attempt to beautify this fact by using big words will be in vain because the word "opposition," in its ideological and political concepts, does not exist among the Palestinian revolution's ranks.

The revolution, specifically Fatah, is not a regime existing on a defined land and within a state whose frameworks and institutions are also defined. The same thing applies to the PFLP and DFLP. What distinguishes Fatah is that it is a national liberation movement. Among the qualities of a national liberation movement is that it gathers within its ranks different political trends that meet on one common national objective. Consequently, it is quite normal and ligitimate to have different political viewpoints within a national liberation movement. Those who have different political viewpoints cannot be described as opposition.

Furthermore, there are regulations which organize the relations among those who have these viewpoints. According to these regulations, the minority abides by the opinion of the majority, and any attempt by the minority to rebel against the opinion of the majority is considered a deviation from the national consensus within the national liberation movement. According to the same regulations, any foreign support for this minority simply means interference in the movement's internal affairs.

Naturally, all foreign interference has specific political objectives. Regardless of the nature of these objectives, they eventually do not serve the minority in any form but serve the interfering party.

As for the PFLP and the DFLP, their organizational nature is like that of a party. Accordingly, any opposition in the party

means the formation of a bloc and an axis, which the party considers as a liquidation threat and an organizational crime liable to severe punishment in accordance with the party's internal charts and regulations. Any foreign support for this bloc or axis has one objective: to cause a split and to liquidate [the party].

We wonder whether Minister Khaddam has failed to understand these simple facts for he continues to use big words to justify the Syrian regime's interference in internal Palestinian affairs. He described this interference as standing alongside the opposition which has been created by Syrian intelligence. We also wonder whether he thought that by using his big words he would be able to end the interference issue in his favor and that the masses would cheer for him. We wonder whether Khaddam has failed to realize — for it seems that he forgets a lot — that standing alongside the opposition means plotting against the legitimate and elected leadership and launching armed attacks on the fighting bases of the leadership in order to liquidate them.

We say all this under the assumption that what Khaddam has called opposition is real and exists politically and ideologically. But the fact is that those whom Khaddam is talking about are a group affiliated with Syrian intelligence; they are agents and mercenaries whose personal objectives and sick ambitions have taken them to the tunnels of Syrian intelligence where they can plot in order to achieve their antinational and illegitimate aims.

In order to not be accused of being unfair to these weird groups, we say that some members have joined them because of their narrow political visions and miscalculations of the situation on all levels. Let 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam choose whatever imaginative phrases he likes because they all include a clear confession and further clarify the Syrian role and its objectives.

Those who adopt the policy of contradictions and who keep repeating and playing with it are eventually going to destroy themselves.

PPSF-PFLP Statement on Lebanese Front, PLO

JN032010 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus — The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF] and the PFLP have expressed their support for the Lebanese National Salvation Front and its institutions to achieve the Lebanese people's objectives and to maintain Lebanon's unity, Arabism, and independence. In a joint statement, the two fronts called for strengthening Palestinian-Syrian-national Lebanese cohesion, given that it constitutes a strong base for confronting the hostile designs. They also called for the promotion of ties of friendship with the forces of liberation in the world and the socialist bloc, foremost being the friendly USSR.

The two fronts denounced the suspect call of some Palestinian leaders for a government-in-exile. They also condemned all the suspect attempts to find alternative plans and to proceed with the proposed settlements, especially the Reagan plan.

The two fronts stressed their support for the PLO's unity and its institutions on the basis of improving its conditions in accordance with the PNC resolutions. They called on the Palestinian factions not to deviate from these resolutions.

Ansar Prisoners in Lebanon Reportedly Escape

LD031138 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1048 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Beirut, 3 Aug (KUNA) -- Local journalists have reported that an extensive escape operation from Ansar prison in southern Lebanon took place last night. They stated that a number of Lebanese and Palestinian detainees escaped through a tunnel they had dug from inside the detention camp to outside the surrounding fences.

The Israeli authorities today announced the discovery of the long tunnel which "was excavated by Ansar prison detainees." The authorities claimed that the excavation work had not been completed "although there were only a few meters left to reach the opening of the tunnel from the other side." They explained that the excavation work was carried out late at night without arousing any suspicion.

Journalists reported that the Israeli army has taken extensive security measures after the discovery of the tunnel and the escape operation, that a number of helicopters were seen flying at low level scouring the area in search of the escapees, and that a number of (?motorized) and foot patrols were seen shooting in the forests, valleys, and mountains surrounding the camp.

Fedayeen Operations Against Israelis Reported

JN031652 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] A group of our revolutionaries operating in the occupied homeland has carried out a daring heroic operation against a Zionist military convoy on the Tulkarm-Nabulus roadnear 'Anabta. The attack, which was carried out with machineguns and handgrenades, resulted in the killing or wounding of several enemy soldiers.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted this operation and said that the Zionist forces surrounded the area, divided it into four zones, and conducted a large-scale search for the attackers, who safely withdraw to their bases. The occupation forces imposed a curfew on 'Anabta and the villages of Bayt Lid and Rummanah in the Tulkarm region as an act of vengeance. The occupation authorities also detained scores of Palestinian citizens on the pretext that they were involved.

Another group of our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland attacked a Zionist military vehicle on the road to Elat. The attack, which was carried out with machineguns, resulted int he wounding of the occupants. The wounded were removed by helicopter to Hadassah Hospital near occupied Jerusalem.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Condemns U.S., Israeli Plans

AU031200 Sofia Rabotnichesko Delo in Bulgarian 2 Aug 83 pp 1,5

[Interview with Salah Khalaf, Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, by Georgi Kaloyanov, representative of *Rabotnichesko Delo, during the former's stay in Bulgaria* — exact time and place of interview not given]

[Text] Salah Khalaf, one of the outstanding leaders of the Palestinian revolution and member of the Fatah Central Committee, has just visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the Committee for Solidarity with the Peoples of Asia and Africa. During his stay in our country, he met Bulgarian journalists, including Georgi Kaloyanov, the *Rabotnichesko Delo* representative. Salah Khalaf answered a few topical questions for our readers concerning the Palestinian people's liberation struggle.

Rabotnichesko Delo: Which are the most important tasks facing the Palestinian revolution at the present stage of development?

Salah Khalaf: The most important problem today is Palestinian unity; the unity between Syria and the PLO, since imperialism and Zionism are trying to strike a blow against us and to expose the PLO to danger, thus trying to undermine its positions.

PLO unity means that we — the Palestinians in the occupied territories and those living in exile — should be like one heart and one hand, aimed against imperialism and Zionism. It means that there should be unity of action with all progressive Arab forces, and it means that we should resist the American plans in the area, which threaten the entire Arab national liberation movement. Basing ourselves on such facts, we think that we are now facing the chief task of preserving PLO unity with the Lebanese patriotic forces, and our unity with Syria, so that we may settle the problems existing within our organization.

Rabotnichesko Delo: A National Salvation Front of Lebanon was established some time ago. What is your attitude about it?

Salah Khalaf: We fully support this front and we consider it as the most positive recent event. This front represents a practical step against the Israeli-American agreement. Together with the Lebanese patriots we have launched the slogan: "United in Blood and Arms." Thus, we support the front not only in word, but also in deed. There is even more — we are calling for the establishment of a broad, joint front between Syria, the PLO, and the National Salvation Front of Lebanon. If this idea should be implemented, it will be the best answer, not only to the Lebanese-Israeli-American agreement, but to all American plans in the area. Together with our comrades, we are devoting all efforts to the establishment of a front, which should closely cooperate with the Soviet Union and the other socialist community member-countries.

Rabotnichesko Delo: What can you say about the situation of the Palestinians in southern Lebanon?

Salah Khalaf: I can say that the Palestinians in southern Lebanon are perhaps in the most desperate situation one can be in. They are subjected to the constant threats and blows of the Israeli occupation troops and, unfortunately, also to the blows of the Lebanese separatists and reactionaries. All the world knows about Sabra and Shatila, while in southern Lebanon similar things are happening every day. Despite this fact, the Palestinians there support the PLO and believe in it, and they express this faith and support under all circumstances. I would like to ask our comrades from the Bulgarian media to take an interest in developments in southern Lebanon and, in particular, in events in the Ansar camp where thousands of Palestinian and Lebanese people are imprisoned. Despite the fact that fascist methods are used against them, they are resisting and have even succeeded in forcing some of their conditions upon the occupiers. New fighters are being transferred daily to this camp who are resisting the Israeli aggressors. Despite the methods of terror, the repressive measures, and the conditions of poverty under which people there are suffering, life in southern Lebanon has another aspect — there is heroism, struggle, and unity with the Lebanese people.

Rabotnichesko Delo: What about the situation on the West Bank and in Gaza?

Salah Khalaf: The situation of the Palestinians on the West Bank and in Gaza is different from that in southern Lebanon. Social conditions are relatively better. There is another danger, of course. The Israeli settlers are gradually driving the Palestinians away, in order to replace the Arab-Palestinian majority of the population by an Israeli-Jewish one. Various kinds of methods are applied for this purpose. Taxes, for example. The peasants are suddenly confronted with taxes three times greater than the value of their harvest. What can they do under these circumstances — they stop cultivating the land, abandon it, and leave the country. This is only part of the campaign for the expulsion of the Palestinian population. Other methods are the restrictions and discrimination: permits are refused for subsidies in building enterprises, cooperatives are being dissolved within a certain deadline, and so forth. Martial law is being applied against anyone who dares to protest against the occupiers.

We should add that the Israeli settlements are built in the strategically important places of Gaza and the West Bank. The settlers are fanatical Jews, who are armed and frequently attack the Palestinian population in public places, blocking their paths. As you know, such fanatics recently invaded the Al-Khalil University and killed a few people, injuring about 40.

All this is aimed at only one goal — that the Palestinian population should be expelled from these territories and their annexation to Israel may be prepared. A few days ago Moshe Arens, the Israeli minister of defense, openly declared that the only solution for the West Bank and Gaza could be the annexation of these territories to Israel. I think that the Begin government is just waiting for an opportunity.

Rabotnichesko Delo: What can you say about cooperation with the democratic forces in Israel?

Salah Khalaf: As early as prior to the Israeli aggression in Lebanon, the PNC adopted a decision for a dialogue with all

democratic and progressive forces in Israel. We began this dialogue and its importance manifested itself during the period of the aggression. The Israeli democratic and progressive forces played a role of fundamental importance in organizing the demonstrations against the aggression and in denouncing it. The most important organization with which we have official relations is the Israeli Communist Party. We are ready, as well, to cooperate with any democratic movement in Israel which recognizes our people's right to establish an independent Palestinian state and which recognizes the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. I think that this is the main political line of the PLO, despite the fact that certain narrow-minded people are opposing it. One of the reasons for the rebellion within Fatah is the fact that those comrades did not accept such a dialogue, despite the fact that the Israeli aggression in Lebanon confirmed its importance.

Rabotnichesko Delo: What do you think about the socialist countries' support for the Palestinian liberation struggle?

Salah Khalaf: Since the American policy in the area is hostile to us and the United States is in the camp of our enemies, it was natural for us to stand in the opposite trenches — namely together with our friends from the socialist community, headed by the Soviet Union, who is our people's friend, the friend of all Arab peoples. We can say that the support of the countries of the socialist community is expanding in three directions: In the first place — and this is very important to us — there is the support for our people and our cause on the international scene. Second, the socialist countries accord us the aid which guarantees the pursuit of our people's armed struggle. Third, there is the humanitarian, scientific, and moral support and assistance, accorded to us through the training of Palestinian students and through the Red Cross. I will cite one example for you: Over 800 Palestinian students are being trained in Bulgaria today, in all fields of science — such as medicine, engineering, and the humanities. A similar number of Palestinian students are being trained in the Soviet Union and in other socialist countries. We do not limit ourselves to universities. We are also doing some research work in the cultural and other sectors. As you see, the relations between the PLO and the socialist countries are well developed in very important and varied activities.

Rabotnichesko Delo: What is your opinion on the future of the Palestinian cause?

Salah Khalaf: Despite the existing difficulties of the Palestinian cause and of the PLO; despite our enemies — the imperialists and Zionists, who are creating so many obstacles to our progress; despite all conspiracies — I am an optimist and I believe in our revolution. This revolution will lead our people to a homeland and to an independent Palestinian state, in which the people will be able to express their national consciousness and their self-confidence — the feeling that they belong to something, namely to their own homeland.

PLO Charge Scores U.S., Israel for 'Crimes'

LD011813 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Aug 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A press conference was given in Moscow today for Soviet and foreign journalists. It was addressed by Rami Muhammad ash-Sha'ir, PLO charge d'affaires in the USSR:

[Begin video recording of Ash-Sha'ir, in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation] The United States bears the main responsibility for all the crimes against the people of Palestine and other Arab peoples, he stated. Israel is Washington's strike force in the area. Rami Muhammad ash-Sha'ir stressed that, thanks to the support of all progressive forces at whose head stands the great Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, the PLO has strengthened its positions. This has forced the ruling circles of the United States and Israel to step up the campaign of terror against the Palestinians.

The bloody attack on the students of Al-Khalil University was one of the latest crimes. These terrorist acts are being accompanied by political and military attacks on the PLO by American imperialism and reaction. However, said Rami Muhammad ash-Sha'ir, the cohesion of the Palestinian people, both in the occupied territory and beyond it, around the PLO leadership, under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat, and with the support of all honest and peace-loving forces in the world, will disrupt such attempts. [end recording]

McFarlane's Tour, U.S. Veto Criticized

JN032050 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1626 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Political commentary]

[Text] Another U.S. veto has taken place at the UN Security Council in favor of the Zionist enemy and its terrorist oppressive policies against our Palestinian people, particularly those inside the occupied homeland. We believe this veto did not surprise anyone. However, this is not the gist of our talk here. Besides, no one expects anything less than complete U.S. support for the Zionist enemy.

The United States has always stressed that the Zionist enemy's security is an indispensable part of U.S. national security and is in the heart of its strategic interests. Furthermore, there are no factors capable of shaking this U.S. stand in the absence of Arab solidarity and a united Arab stand on the Palestinian cause and there are no practical and influential efforts capable of confronting and bringing about the requested change in the political struggle against the Zionist enemy and the United States.

We say this although we realize that some Arabs, out of good faith, say that the United States is out of the main arena of struggle and that it is a friend that can be won over to the side of the Arab causes. Although the Arabs, particularly the Arabs of America, have had numerous experiences with U.S. policy — which has been proved to always be in favor of the Zionist enemy

— they insist on going ahead toward a deadlock. Their main arena is still the United Nations and the Security Council and they still face the tragic end constituted by the U.S. veto, the main star of the play which has been taking place in UN halls for 30 years now.

Some may ask: Is it true that the Arab group which presented the draft resolution to the Security Council condemning the Zionist policies of terrorism and murder and the construction of settlements inside the occupied West Bank did not expect a U.S. veto? Those who drafted the resolution may have thought that it would pass for one reason: the Reagan plan itself condemns the construction of settlements and calls for paralyzing them as a prerequisite for the establishment of peace in the Arab region — naturally according to the U.S. understanding of peace.

They have not realized that there is a difference between propaganda stands and actual practice on the ground to meet strategic interests. They have failed to realize that Zionist settlement plans are still being financed by U.S. funds. They missed the fact that the Reagan plan has objectives other than those disclosed, mainly the destruction and liquidation of the PLO. This plan does not recognize the PLO, intentionally ignores it, and calls on the Arab states to get rid of the PLO, which the plan describes as the main obstacle on the path of peace. This call has been publicly and frankly revealed by Reagan and Shultz themselves.

Those who drafted the resolution failed to understand that the plans which the U.S. Administration wants to achieve are not disclosed in the usual manner. These plans are stuffed in the briefcases of U.S. diplomats and envoys to the Middle East to be discussed in closed rooms.

The Reagan plan is the basis of the trickery practiced by President Reagan's administration to fulfill and serve the interests of U.S.-Zionist strategy in the Arab region. We do not believe the U.S. Administration wishes to further underline its President's plan in this stage because it is being implemented, particularly in Lebanon's Al-Biqa'. This plan is being adopted by the Syrian authority through its attempt to tear apart the Palestinian ranks and seize independent Palestinian decisionmaking so this authority may later submit its bill to the U.S. Administration in order to be accredited as the main negotiator in the region to settle its problems. This will be discussed in Damascus by the new U.S. envoy,Robert McFarlane. This envoy has been cordially welcomed by Damascus, which considered Habib's replacement by this envoy as a positive step in U.S. policy.

Of course, Syrian officials do not mean to consider the recent U.S. veto at the Security Council against the Palestinian people and McFarlane's tour of the Arab region as related to the gist of U.S. Middle East policy. They most likely do not think the U.S. veto parallels McFarlane's tour in order to serve specific objectives.

However, the veto remains the clear message of the U.S policy. McFarlane's topics of discussion, particularly in Damascus, will range between the U.S. veto and the interests of the Zionist enemy and the United States, foremost of which is the destruction and complete liquidation of the PLO. McFarlane will not discuss anything beyond this subject. Otherwise, let the U.S.-Syrian working committees tell us something different.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Oil Ministers To Meet 10 August in At-Ta'if

GF031314 Doha QNA in Arabic 1155 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 3 Aug (QNA) — GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah said that during their meeting in At-Ta'if on 10 August, the GCC petroleum ministers will discuss a number of reports of the technical committees which stem from their conference.

KUWAIT

ARAB TIMES Calls For Resumption of Egyptian Ties

GF031218 Kuwait Arab Times in English 2 Aug 83 p 6

["Opinion" column by Editor-in-Chief Ahmad al-Jarallah: "Fence-Mending Before Face-Saving"]

[Text] What prevents some Arab countries from resuming their diplomatic relations with Egypt when there are already connections between them?

It is not acceptable to say that breaking relations with Egypt is an Arab decision which must be nullified by another Arab decision because Arab solidarity is not complete.

Some Arab countries support Iran which is officially at war with Iraq, but no joint Arab decision has been taken.

To say that a resumption of relations with Egypt needs a top level decision is unjustified hesitation.

Ties between Egypt and Iraq, for instance, are more extensive than mere diplomatic relations. The two countries enjoy complete mutual understanding and cooperation.

The same applies to relations between Egypt and Jordan and some other countries. And a number of others never severed relations with Egypt.

Waiting for a summit conference to decide on resuming relations means needless delay. Also, the Arab people realize that the breaking of ties was an emotional, rather than a logical decision.

The presence of Egypt at summit conferences has proved beneficial. At the same time, Egypt and its president play a prominent role on the international scene because they keep their word.

The Arab world often requires a trusted party in international contacts, and here the role of Egypt would be fruitful. Saving face should not be an obstacle to restoring relations between the Arab world and Egypt.

SAUDI ARABIA

Information Minister Reports on Cabinet Session

GF031536 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The Cabinet held a session yesterday evening under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

In a statement to SPA following the session, Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, said that during its session the Cabinet discussed the most significant Arab and international incidents and developments and listened to the recent news on the region's situation in general and the developments of the Palestinian and Lebanese issues in particular.

He said: His majesty the king briefed the Cabinet on the results of His Majesty King Husayn's visit to the Kingdom and described it as a valuable visit which was within the framework of the consultations and exchange of views on recent events. His majesty told the Cabinet that the views on the issues of mutual interest were similar.

The information minister said that his majesty the king briefed the Cabinet on the results of the talks Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister, held with his majesty and with His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, and described them as fruitful and constructive.

The minister said that his majesty later talked about the current situation in the international oil market and the experts' future expectations and concepts in this regard. His majesty concentrated on the Kingdom's concern about going forward in diversifying the sources of income and in advancing in the current research programs and studies in order to find alternatives to the oil revenues. His excellency said that while talking about the Kingdom's economic affairs, his majesty directed the Cabinet's attention to the importance of speedily completing the important projects which are directly linked to the citizen's interests and livelihood.

His majesty gave his valuable instructions to the ministers to prepare studies on some projects for the current year. The information minister said that in this regard, and at the instruction of his majesty the king, the Cabinet listened to the brief report by His Excellency Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy, on the expenditures and revenues during the first phase of the current 1983-1984 fiscal year, which projects better economic and development results for the rest of the fiscal year, God willing.

Awqaf Minister Holds Press Conference 3 August

GF040700 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] The minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf, 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi', stressed that the Kingdom did not ask the Iranian authorities to reduce the number of Iranian pilgrims. In a press conference held for Saudi press representatives and carried by Saudi television yesterday evening, he denied that the Kingdom has intervened in the method or way of renting houses in Mecca for Iranian pilgrims. He also refuted Iranian claims regarding the reduction of the number of flights from Tehran to Jidda for the transport of Iranian pilgrims. He said all the measures of transporting pilgrims take place in accordance with a specific schedule that is arranged long before the start of hajj season.

The minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf discussed the preparations of his majesty's government for the hajj season and said that it has been the Kingdom's custom to offer large amounts of money and assistance in order to provide the best possible services. He said: What his majesty's government does in order to serve the pilgrims is obvious and is being spoken about by a large number of the heads of Islamic hajj missions, senior pilgrims and thinkers who express their gratitude directly to his majesty the king, his highness the crown prince and the awqaf minister.

He added that since the start of the Saudi era, there has been a radical transformation of the hajj concept because security and safety have been provided, thus assuring pilgrimage delegations about the safety of their honor, persons, and wealth, and as a result, the number of pilgrims has increased. The minister further explained that whomever follows the statistics of pilgrimage during the Saudi era since the time of King 'Abd al-'Aziz will realize the increase achieved in this regard.

The minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf also said that whomever follows the expenditure of the state during the past 10 years will realize how much money has been spent in order to develop the holy shrines by constructing highways, bridges, and other projects. He stressed that the Kingdom feels fully responsible in this field and that is why all concerned departments, foremost of which is the king himself, shift to the hajj region, Jidda and Mecca where the servant of both sacred mosques supervises pilgrims' affairs and directs officials appropriately so that these departments can take charge of pilgrimage activities.

The minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf said that as a result of this expenditure and sincere desire to simplify hajj, the Kingdom has been able to receive more than two million pilgrims every year from within and outside the country. He stressed that the Kingdom does perform its Islamic mission. He explained that the Kingdom does not receive any fee or tax from any pilgrim whether he comes for hajj or 'umrah [minor hajj]

He also stressed that the Kingdom has never thought of limiting the number of pilgrims. He noted that the policy of his majesty's government is that the Kingdom opens its doors to all those wishing to perform hajj and it has never requested the Muslim world to limit the number of pilgrims.He said it has made expensive and major expansions in Mina in order to enable the region to receive additional pilgrims. He also said that the Kingdom feels this is its duty toward Islamic shrines, Islam and the Muslims throughout the world.

The minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf also dealt with what is being rumored by Iranian officiails about the Iranian pilgrims and what they make of false claims. He said: The Kingdom did not demand a reduction in the number of Iranian pilgrims. He stressed that the Iranian pilgrims are just like other Muslim brothers, and are all welcomed by the Kingdom as pilgrims, brothers and honorable guests. He added: The Iranian pilgrims — and they know this — are favored with many things not available to some other pilgrims. He mentioned in this regard that concerning hajj measures, a mutawwif [pilgrimage contractor] is not allowed to have more than 3,000 pilgrims, whereas the Iranian pilgrims' mutawwif leads 7,000 pilgrims because they have a certain number of mutawwifs to whom they adhere.

The minister noted that the king ordered that the Iranian pilgrims be offered all possible facilities in order to simplify things for them. He added that the Iranian missions that come before the season are usually given full hospitality, vehicles and other things in order to make them feel they are being respected and appreciated so long as they pursue the line pursued by the rest of pilgrims. He said that the number of Iranian pilgrims accepted this year are about 85,000. He indicated that the Kingdom did not request any country to limit the number of its pilgrims and added that it should be clear to the whole Muslim world that the Kingdom does not refuse to receive any pilgrim.

Asked about the causes of the row created by the Iranian pilgrims alone although all pilgrims perform their rituals with ease and comfort, the minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf said that for the last 3 years the Iranian brothers have adopted stands that no other country in the Kingdom's place would have accepted. He noted that the Kingdom's sovereignty on its territories including Mecca, Medina and pilgrimage regions is indisputable, but once security is jeopardized, every sensible person will realize the dangers of such a thing.

He also said that the Iranian brothers insisted and still insist on holding demonstrations, rallies and shouting slogans. Regrettably, this is usually carried into the very inside of the sacred mosque and the mosque of the prophet. These things, he added, disagree with the right Islamic goal in the view of many Muslims. He also said that if the Iranians have certain viewpoints on benefiting from hajj, these benefits are not only political but religious, economic, political, and cultural and these can be utilized through the channels set up by the state such as the Muslim World League, the Islamic Conference Organization, pilgrimage ministry seminars and the Information Ministry journalists' seminars. If the Iranian brothers wish to participate with the rest of the Muslim countries they should do so through these channels.

But, he added, shouting, chaos, stirring confusion, clashes,and hurting the feelings of Muslims during prayers are contrary tothe principles of the Islamic religion and the main goals of hajj. While explaining the Iranian behavior during hajj, the minister of pilgrimage affairs and awqaf said that such actions are consid-

ered a violation of security. He noted that the Interior Ministry made every possible effort to avoid hurting any Iranian pilgrim and that the ministry, led by his highness the interior minister, was anxious last year to request the Ministry of Pilgrimage and Awqaf to include the security measures within the Pilgrimage Ministry's booklets that are published in all accredited languages and to inform the Islamic embassies that these booklets should be given to pilgrims together with the entry visas in order for them to know the Kingdom's systems and their rights and obligations with regard to the mutawwif, guides, the Ministry of Pilgrimage, and other departments.

The minister added that this booklet was distributed among all the Iranian pilgrims at exit points when they left home and at Saudi entry points as they arrived.

The minister of pilgrimage and awqaf wondered what the stand of the Iranian Government would be if such actions were practiced in Iran. He said that despite the demonstrations and in spite of what happened, the state enabled the Iranians to perform hajj rituals and those who offended were requested to depart after hajj so long as they have performed its rituals. He also stressed that it is the Kingdom's duty to safeguard its security and the security of pilgrims and said that the Iranians must know that if the pilgrims of any other country were to behave in the same manner, the Kingdom would have done the same thing with them in order to stop them.

The minister said that all the scholars who contacted the Muslim World League expressed their discontent with the Iranian actions.

QNA Reports U.S.-Saudi M-60 Tank Agreement

GF031340 Doha QNA in Arabic 1150 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Riyadh, 3 Aug (QNA) — A U.S. official source declared that the U.S. Administration's decision to sell 100 modified M-60 tanks to Saudi Arabia affirms the United States' keenness to support Saudi Arabia since it represents an important moderate force in the region.

He stated that this deal, which will cost the U.S. $176 million, will include complimentary spare parts and communications equipment suited to the tanks, in addition to infrared reconnaisance equipment for night sight. It noted that the Saudi ground forces are able to operate these tanks without the assistance of experts.

It is worth mentioning that the U.S. Defense Department informed the U.S. Congress of this deal yesterday.

Press Criticizes U.S. Stand on Israeli Withdrawal

LD031406 Riyadh SPA in English 1212 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Riyadh, Aug 3 (SPA) — Saudi newspaper editorial comments today harshly criticised the U.S. stand on Israeli troops partial withdrawal from Lebanon. Commenting on the American efforts in Lebanon, *Al-Jazirah* called on the United States to make clarifications to Arab countries on its stand in Lebanon and what steps it would take in the future to solve the Lebanese crisis. The paper said the American stand was "very ambiguous" and "inconvenient" in light of the sudden shift in its position on the Israeli plan of partial withdrawal from Lebanon.

It said recent talks between American and Israeli officials in Washington had no mention of what position the two sides had taken on the partial withdrawal plan of Israel and whether this plan would lead to full withdrawal from the Lebanese territory.

The paper regretted the American stand and accused the American Administration of turning the issue of the Israeli occupation to Lebanon into a political game.

It expressed Arab disapproval of the U.S. stand as a friendly nation and said the American behaviour in the Middle East was casting doubts on U.S. sincere efforts in the region.

An-Nadwah said Washington was trying to impose the Israeli will on the Lebanese people and was treating equally the Israeli invaders and the invaded people of Lebanon.

It expressed (?belief) that Washington and Israel were attempting to partite Lebanon into small entities and undermine the country's territorial integrity and national equilibrium.

The paper said to ensure Lebanon's sovereignty and independence the international community should make pressures on Israel to stop its aggression in the region and pull out its invading forces from Lebanon.

Another paper, *Al-Yawm*, said the new U.S. envoy to the Middle East could not achieve any progress for his efforts in the region unless the American Administration changed its whole view on the Middle East problem and got rid of its bias toward Israel.

The paper condemned the administration stand on the Israeli plan for partial withdrawal from Lebanon. It warned against the Israeli expansionist ambitions in Lebanon.

Commentary on U.S. Veto of Arab UN Resolution

LD032343 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Husayn al-Askari commentary]

[Text] The United States has used its veto against an Arab draft resolution that was presented to the UN Security Council condemning the Israeli attacks on Palestinian compatriots in the occupied Arab territories.

The American objection to the Arab draft resolution was not a surprising process. On the contrary, all signs showed that the Americans did not approve the condemnation of the Israeli enemy.

This was not the first time, nor will it be the last, that the United States has resorted to vetoing an Arab or non-Arab resolution condemning the practices of the Israelis in the occupied Arab territories. This fact gives the impression that the Arab-Israeli

conflict, with all its tensions and pressures, continues to be unjustly viewed by the big powers.

Through the moral force made available to them by virtue of the nature of approval of a UN Security Council resolution, these powers want to assert themselves by challenging the counterview even though this view serves the cause of protecting the security and safety of a nation that is living under the yoke of occupation and the harshest forms of repression, as is the case with the Palestinian people on their land under the domination of the Israeli forces of occupation.

So far the course intended to be imposed on the Arab-Israeli conflict in the sphere of what the great powers claim is the process of searching for peace and avoiding an eruption of the situation and increased tension, since the United States continues to justify its stances by saying that it does not wish to encourage the process of deepening the differences which could be tackled by means of negotiations, as the American Administration put it. [sentence as heard] But the more complicated and more serious problem is the lack of resources to influence the process of finding a just and lasting solution to the problem. This will continue as long as the process of providing protection to the Israeli practices exists, a fact which perpetuates the Israeli enemy's feelings of reassurance and which increases his arrogance and his reliance on the use of force under this protection to impose the fait accompli. All this makes finding a solution to the problem reverberate between limited progress and a return to the starting point.

Saudi Petromin Cuts Liquid Petroleum Gas Price

LD031323 Riyadh SPA in English 1218 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Riyadh, Aug 3 (SPA) — Saudi Petromin has decided to cut its liquid petroleum gas (LPG) price by ten dollars a tonne to 270 dollars, it was officially announced here today.

Petromin Deputy Governor 'Ali al-Rebaishi said the new price was in effect from August 1.

UAE

President Receives Iraqi President's Message

GF031019 Doha QNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Aug (QNA) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan today received a verbal message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral relations and current Arab developments.

The message was conveyed by Lieutenant General Hamid Shaban, the Iraqi president's adviser for military affairs, during an audience with the UAE president today. The Iraqi envoy left for home after conveying the message and after paying a brief visit to Abu Dhabi. Sources at the Iraqi Embassy in the UAE told the QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi that this message is one of a group of messages the Iraqi president has sent to a number of Arab leaders, including Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah.

Daily on Increasing Employment of Nationals

GF031214 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 3 Aug 83 p 6

[Editorial: "National Talent and Progress"]

[Text] The Civil Service Commission has just released its annual report for 1982, and according to it, the total number of persons employed with the federal government at the end of that year stood at 40,463, of which 12,631 or 31.22 per cent were nationals. The figure for national employees has varied over the past four years, but it is significantly higher for last year than the figure for 1978, when nationals had formed only 24.90 per cent of the total government work force, and it indicates the steady progress being made towards employing more nationals in government and entrusting them with running the country's affairs. The trend set by the federal government is reflected in individual emirates as well as in the private sector.

It is now clearly understood and appreciated everywhere that the early days of almost total dependance upon expatriates are over, and a new era is beginning with national talent coming into its own in every field. This has been achieved through a concerted effort made at the federal level to promote education and make facilities of higher education available to an increasing number of nationals. The establishment of the Emirates University at Al-'Ain has lent new impetus to this process, and over 500 students graduated from it this year.

In addition, according to official figures, 141 nationals are expected to graduate from foreign universities this year besides 54 who will qualify as engineers. A pool of educated, wide-awake and articulate young people is thus being progressively built up, full of hope for their country and with visions of steady progress in the future.

The government has set up a panel to prepare a study on national graduates and consider the best possible means of absorbing them and appointing them to suitable posts on the basis of scientific criteria. Perhaps it would be advisable to compile a register of national graduates which should include those working abroad but whose professional abilities might be needed at home. The important thing is to make sure that the right people are appointed to the right jobs and their talents are gainfully employed.

A general review of the staff position also ought to be undertaken to prevent overstaffing at one place and understaffing at another. The dictates of efficiency also demand that arrangements be made for the training of graduates going into government service. Ideally, there should be a full-fledged administrative training academy, which could also take in graduates wanting to work in the private sector, based on the experience already gained at the administrative science department of Emirates University, where the subject is among the more popular taught.

Pending that, there should be more schemes like the one formulated recently by the Foreign Ministry under which a number of appointees were sent to various government departments for job acclimatisation. Private sector firms, meanwhile, should not merely be asked to increase their intake of nationals but also, wherever possible, help to train the country's youth.

PDRY

Chairman Receives Soviet Charge d'Affaires

GF031402 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received at his office today Brother (Pelestov), USSR charge d'affaires, who conveyed a letter from Soviet leaders dealing with bilateral relations and ways of strengthening and developing them. Cooperation between the PDRY and the Soviet Union was discussed during the meeting.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad expressed satisfaction for the continuous development of the struggle relations between the two friendly countries, which are based on the treaty of friendship and cooperation.

'Ali, DPRK Vice Premier Begin Talks in Cairo

NC031332 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 3 Aug (MENA) — Talks started here this morning between Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and DPRK Vice Premier Chong Chun-ki, who is currently visiting Cairo. The talks dealt with the development of bilateral relations and the best way for implementing the agreements that were signed previously in the economic, scientific, technical, and agricultural spheres. The talks also touched on means of promoting bilateral trade exchange.

In the area of political cooperation, both sides reviewed the situation in east Asia and the DPRK's efforts to peacefully unify both parts of Korea — the DPRK and South Korea. 'Ali reviewed Egypt's views on the situation in the Middle East. The DPRK side expressed its support for Egypt's position and its efforts on behalf of the Palestinian and Lebanese issues as well as for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The DPRK official arrived in Cairo yesterday on a 4-day visit to Egypt.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali Interview With Beirut Weekly

NC031140 Beirut Monday Morning in English 1-7 Aug 83 pp 46-48

[By Mona as-Sa'id]

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has warned that violence would break out in Lebanon if the stalemate over the implementation of the May 17 Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal accord continued much longer.

"Tension over the Lebanese crisis arises from the failure to implement the Lebanese-Israeli agreement so far," 'Ali told *Monday Morning in an exclusive interview last week. "This* enables the forces opposed to peace and to the restoration of Lebanon's unity under its legitimate government to exploit the situation to achieve their goal of perpetuating instability and distress in this sisterly country.

"The longer the situation now prevailing in Lebanon lasts, the greater the chances will be of an eruption. This we do not wish, and we hope it will be averted as quickly as possible," he added.

In written answers to *Monday Morning's* questions, 'Ali, who is also deputy prime minister, affirmed the following Egyptian positions on Lebanon and the Middle East:

The Palestine Liberation Organization should overcome its internal differences and set up a government-in-exile.

The only forces taking advantage of the current mutiny within PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah guerilla group "are those wanting to strip the Palestinians of all the international gains which they have achieved.... This split endangers Palestinian legitimacy and could thus have serious consequences."

The inter-Palestinian rift was all the more regrettable since it happened at a time when Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip were being "subjected to the most reprehensible policies of occupation and repression."

The PLO would hopefully come out of this crisis "with a greater determination to (preserve) its independence and keep Palestinian decision-making away from currents and maneuvers aimed at jeopardizing Paelstinian action."

It would also be in the organization's interest to form a Palestinian government-in-exile because this would bolster the Palestinian struggle "through greater recognition of this government by the international community.

"In addition, a provisional government would be more independent and avoid the current conflicts within the organization as well as the external pressures being exerted on it."

It is Israel, not Egypt, that is violating the peace treaty through its repressive policies in the occupied territories, its presence in Lebanon and its position on the disputed Tabah area.

Israel has often acted in a way conflicting with its peace commitments. "Suffice it to mention the Israeli practices in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, to which the whole world has borne witness." These practices include the expulsion of mayors, the stepping-up of settlement activity, "the terrorizing of Arab residents by deliberate acts of murder and other coercive measures..."

The replacement of Washington's Middle East envoy Philip Habib by Robert McFarlane is a move that "primarily concerns the United States."

Declining to comment on the implications of the removal of Habib, who had been snubbed by Syria, 'Ali said there was no indication that the appointment of a new trouble-shooter heralded any change in the United States' policy on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

"The United States' position on the need for the pullout of all foreign forces from Lebanon is well-known and it is determined to move forward on this issue."

U.S. efforts on Lebanon are especially welcome since a resolution of the Lebanese crisis is necessary for a regional settlement.

"We look forward to a speedy implementation of the (U.S.-sponsored) Lebanese-Israeli agreement so that all efforts will be channelled into the essential issue, that is... achieving a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East and resolving the Palestinian problem....

"The continuation of this (Lebanese) crisis makes it difficult to direct efforts toward pursuing the peace process and finding a comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem."

The full text of Ali's answers, which were translated from Arabic:

[As-Sa'id] How would you evaluate the outcome of the recent Al-Jumayyil Reagan summit with regard to the issue of foreign troop withdrawals from Lebanon?

['Ali] The United States is a major party in efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis. Its participation had an important impact on finalizing the Lebanese-Israeli (troop withdrawal) agreement. The United States' position on the need for the pullout of all foreign forces from Lebanon is well-known and it is determined to move forward on this issue.

We hope that as a result of the American-Lebanese summit there will be new momentum towards the implementation of the Lebanese-Israeli accord.

[As-Sa'id] How does Cairo view Washington's decision to replace Middle East envoy Philip Habib by a new American working team headed by Robert McFarlane? Does this move herald a change in the United States' policy on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon?

['Ali] The change of individuals is a matter that primarily concerns the United States. As to the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, it is clear that Washington is committed to its policy on this issue and there are no indications whatever of any change in this position.

[As-Sa'id] Do you expect McFarlane to succeed in breathing new life into President Reagan's Middle East peace plan?

['Ali] We look forward to a speedy implementation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement so that all efforts will be channelled into the essential issue, that is, continuing the peace process, achieving a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East and resolving the Palestinian problem, which is the core of the conflict in the region.

It is our hope that the U.S. will intensify efforts to move President Reagan's initiative forward.

[As-Sa'id] In your opinion, will Washington's decision to replace Habib by McFarlane reduce tensions over the Lebanese crisis?

['Ali] In my opinion, tensions over the Lebanese crisis arise from the failure to implement the Lebanese-Israeli agreement so far. This enables the forces opposed to peace and to the restoration of Lebanon's unity under its legimimate government to exploit the situation to achieve their goal of perpetuating instability and distress in this sisterly country.

The longer the situation now prevailing in Lebanon lasts, the greater the chances will be of an eruption. This we do not wish, and we hope it will be averted as quickly as possible.

[As-Sa'id] What should the U.S. do to convince Syria to withdraw its troops from Lebanon? Is it enough to replace Habib by McFarlane or should Washington link Syria's pullout from Lebanon with Israel's pullout from the Golan Heights?

['Ali] The Golan is part of the territories that Israel occupied in 1967. The United States must certainly reckon with the Golan issue in its attempts to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute in line with Security Council Resolution 242.

[As-Sa'id] In your opinion, is it true that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin called off his visit to Washington in order to avoid making concessions on the Lebanese and Middle Eastern crises?

['Ali] I think only Mr. Begin can spell out the reasons which prompted him to cancel his visit to Washington.

[As-Sa'id] How does Cairo look at Israel's decision to redeploy its troops in Lebanon — a move which Beirut opposes? Could this partial pullback lead to the partition of Lebanon?

['Ali] As far as we are concerned, withdrawal means a total withdrawal as provided for in the Lebanese-Israeli accord, and there should be a guaranteed timetable for such a pullout.

Egypt is against any attempts to partition Lebanon. It stands with all its capabilities by the unity and territorial integrity of the whole of Lebanon under its legitimate authorities and central government.

[As-Sa'id] What can Egypt do to help bring about the withdrawal of Israeli and other non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon?

['Ali] Ever since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon started, Cairo has sought to bring Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory to a quick end. Egypt is pursuing its contacts with various countries, primarily the United States, to push in this direction and urge these states to support the Lebanese position aiming to liberate Lebanon from all foreign forces.

[As-Sa'id] Does Egypt believe that Lebanon should now take the withdrawal issue to new forums — like the United Nations or the Arab League — or seek Soviet-American contacts on this issue?

['Ali] Lebanon certainly has the right and freedom to use all practical and effective avenues that would enable it to liberate its territory of foreign forces. Lebanon is thus called upon to carefully balance the means through which it can achieve the goal of liberation.

[As-Sa'id] Does Egypt believe that the Lebanese problem can be dissociated from the Middle East crisis?

['Ali] The Lebanese crisis has its own complexities and its own background, which are known to us all. The perpetuation of this crisis casts a shadow on the general situation in the Middle East and adds a further obstacle to the efforts to resolve the Middle East crisis. In other words, the continuation of this crisis makes it difficult to direct efforts toward pursuing the peace process and finding a comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem.

[As-Sa'id] What does Egypt intend to do to help heal the rift inside the Palestine Liberation Organization?

['Ali] Egypt has stated its position since the start of the unfortunate events within the organization and urged the Palestinian brethren to rise above their differences and seek to unite their ranks at this delicate stage through which the Middle East is passing.

The only forces benefitting from these divisions are those wanting to strip the Palestinians of all the international gains which they have achieved and which have put the (Palestinian) cause at the forefront of the international scene and rallied worldwide support for it. This split endangers Palestinian legitimacy and could thus have serious consequences.

It is unfortunate that such a split (among the Palestinians) should occur at a time when their brethren and children in the West Bank and Gaza are being subjected to the most reprehensible policies of occupation and repression.

[As-Sa'id] Do you expect Yasir 'Arafat to carry the day in the troubles now besetting the PLO and Fatah?

['Ali] We hope that the organization will regain its unity and contain these conflicts. (We hope) that Palestinian legitimacy will be bolstered and that (the PLO) will emerge from this crisis with a greater determination to (preserve) its independence and keep Palestinian decision-making away from currents and maneuvers aimed at jeopardizing Palestinian action.

[As-Sa'id] Why did President Husni Mubarak choose to reiterate his support for a Palestinian government-in-exile at this specific time?

['Ali] A Palestinian government-in-exile would constitute a step forward in the Palestinian nationalist struggle and increase its chances of international support through greater recognition of this government by the international community. In addition, a provisional government would be more independent and avoid the current conflicts within the organization as well as the external pressures being exerted on it.

[As-Sa'id] What is your answer to Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's charge that Egypt has emptied the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty of its content, and to other Israeli charges that Cairo's failure to return its ambassador to Israel is a link in a series of Egyptian violations of the treaty?

['Ali] Egypt respects its signatures and international commitments and has an impeccable record in this respect. Egypt is implementing the peace treaty with Israel in letter and spirit and fulfilling its commitments under the accord with precision.

We wish Israel would reciprocate. Unfortunately, it has taken many actions and measures that contradict its peace commitments. Israel has a long record on that score. Suffice it to mention the Israeli practices in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, to which the whole world has borne witness — including the expulsion of West Bank mayors, the stepping up of settlement activity, the terrorizing of Arab residents by deliberate acts of murder and other coercive measures like limiting freedoms and putting constant economic strains on the Arabs. Add to that Israel's position on Tabah and its invasion of Lebanon.

[As-Sa'id] Are Egyptian-Soviet relations improving?

['Ali] An essential ingredient of Egypt's foreign policy is to maintain normal relations with all countries in the world as long as they respect its independence and sovereignty. In this context, a normalization of Egyptian-Soviet relations is possible.

Abu Ghazalah on Talks With Romanian Counterpart

NC031251 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1205 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 3 Aug (MENA) — The first round of military talks was held at the armed forces headquarters this morning between Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah and Romanian Defense Minister Lieutenant General Constantin Olteanu. Participating in the talks for the Egyptian side were Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, Air Defense Forces Commander Lieutenant General Sayyid Hamdi, and Air Force Commander Lieutenant General Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Hilmi.

Following the 30-minute meeting, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said that they reviewed military cooperation in the fields of military industrialization and training. He said that the Romanian defense minister expressed his country's readiness to boost bilateral cooperation in all domains. Abu Ghazalah further said that he will hold lengthy talks with the Romanian defense minister at the end of his visit to Egypt to specify cooperation in the fields of military industrialization, training, and other military spheres.

Butrus Ghali Departs for African Countries

NC031146 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1112 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 3 Aug (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali left here this afternoon for Brazzaville via Paris on a 1-week tour during which he will visit the People's Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic.

Prior to his departure, Ghali said that he will hand two messages to the presidents of both countries. He added that he will hold talks with both countries' foreign ministers on African issues, particularly the Chadian issue, and that he will discuss mutual cooperation in the cultural, commercial, and economic domains.

Ghali added that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has recently established a special fund for technical assistance to African states. He added that during his visit he will discuss the activities of this fund and that he will hold talks with Egyptian experts in Brazzaville and Bangui with the aim of activating Egyptian technical assistance to African states.

Cabinet Discusses SFRY, Romania Visits

NC031832 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpts] During its meeting today under Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the Cabinet discussed the political, economic, industrial, and information results of the visit to Romania by Muhyi ad-Din and his delegation. Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif said the prime minister stated that the

Egyptian and Romanian views were similar regarding the need to establish a just peace in the area, regarding developments in Lebanon and the need to preserve the Lebanese territory's unity and independence, and regarding the need for action to end the Iran-Iraq war. Both sides emphasized the link between European security and security in the Mediterranean area. The minister further said that the meeting also reviewed the information cooperation protocol signed in Bucharest, which is aimed at boosting bilateral cooperation in the spheres of press, radio, and television. He said that the economy minister pointed to the importance of the economic talks he held with the Romanian side, which are aimed at making a balance in the bilateral trade exchange and raising the trade volume to $1 billion in the next few years.

The industry minister reviewed the agreement reached to draft timetables for implementing the joint projects between the two countries, primarily the agricultural mechanization projects, cement, production of chemicals, and maintainance of railway equipment.

Ash-Sharif added that the Cabinet also discussed the results of the recent visit to Yugoslavia by Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production and the cooperation protocol between Egypt and Yugoslavia in arms production technology.

The Cabinet also discussed the developments of the situation in Chad and the developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha reviewed the recent detention by the security organs of the secret radical organization that calls itself the Islamic Liberation party, which worked for foreign parties abroad and aimed to topple the regimes in the Arab countries.

Sudanese Agriculture Minister Departs 4 August

NC040655 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0621 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 4 Aug (MENA) — Dr 'Uthman Hakim, Sudanese minister of agriculture and irrigation, departed Cairo for his country early today. During his visit to Egypt of several days the Sudanese minister attended the session of the general assembly of the Egyptian-Sudanese Higher Integration Council.

Further Materials on Battles in Northern Area

Commander: 6,524 Iranians Killed

JN031436 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Aug (INA) — The commander of an Iraqi brigade whose forces Iran claimed to have destroyed has said that his brigade is now stationed in the Zurbatiyah area in the central sector of the battlefield and, along with other units, is heroically fighting the Iranian units which tried to attack it today. The commander of the 417th Brigade, who holds the rank of staff colonel, stressed that his brigade and the other units managed to kill 1,500 troops of the attacking Iranian units, wound a large number, and destroy 3 tanks, 10 vehicles — 5 of which were carrying personnel — and large quantities of weapons and hardware.

He ridiculed Iranian claims which he described as an expression of an impossible desire, adding that the 417th Brigade is fighting alongside other units to destroy any new Iranian attack.

It is noteworthy that the Zurbatiyah area has for the past 4 days been witnessing Iranian attacks aimed at penetrating Iraq's international borders. During these attacks the enemy has thus far lost 6,524 dead.

Communique No 1,174

JN031711 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1616 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,174 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 3 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The brave Iraqis, who are valiantly and successfully fighting the covetous enemy and waging a just and sacred war against its forces in defense of their country, sanctities, and the future of their nation, will, with God's help and their great Army's heroism, crush all the hostile and criminal Khomeyniite attempts. They will bring utter defeat upon the enemies and the Iraqi victory over the criminal enemy will remain lofty and successful, God willing. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Since last night and throughout today our valiant units have been waging fierce battles against the criminal Iranian enemy forces in the area east of Zurbatiyah in the central sector of the battlefield, dealing strong and devastating blows to the tyrannical aggressors in the enemy army and to the henchmen of charlatan Khomeyni and scoring great and splendid victories. By their unique valor and heroic fighting in the raging battles, the courageous soldiers of Iraq managed to make the enemy taste bitter defeats and humiliation. They also destroyed a large part of the enemy units, inflicting massive losses in personnel and equipment.

The known enemy losses so far counted amount to 2,410 killed; a large number wounded; 13 tanks, 30 vehicles of various types — 15 of which were carrying personnel who were also killed — 5 armored personnel carriers, large quantities of medium and light weapons, equipment, and various hardware destroyed; and large quantities of serviceable weapons seized.

Our heroic units are still dealing devastating blows to the enemy and maintaining their war meomentum in order to destroy the enemy's forces and defeated remnants.

2. Since this morning the brave eagles in our aircraft have been carrying out daring raids and valiant attacks against enemy positions and units opposite our forward positions in the area east of Zurbatiyah as well as against enemy concentrations, supply lines, and reinforcements deep inside Iran in the central sector of the battlefield, scoring direct, concentrated, and effective hits. Our fighter planes today also extended effective support to our heroic ground units in their confrontation and attack of enemy units and troop concentrations in the same area, imposing their full control of the battle skies and bolstering our valiant units' steadfastness and valor in destroying and crushing the enemy and its defeated forces. Our fighter planes inflicted massive damage and losses on the enemy targets and units. Tongues of fire were seen swallowing up the enemy postions, equipment, and vehicles.

Other formations of our aircraft today attacked enemy military targets in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring accurate and effective hits. Our fighter planes today carried out 116 combat missions. They all returned safely to base.

3. All day long today our capable helicopters attacked the enemy positions, units, and troop concentrations in the northern and central sectors of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits and inflicting on the enemy further losses in personnel, vehicles, and equipment. The sounds of explosions were heard in the enemy positions and among its weapons that were hit and destroyed. Our helicopters today carried out 35 combat missions before all returned safely to base.

4. Fresh groups of Iranian military and civilians, fleeing the oppression of the sanguinary Khomeyniite regime, sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

5. One excavator and one machinegun were destroyed east Basra. Those manning the machinegun were killed.

6. One infantry position and two hardware stockpiles were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 August 1983

Zurbatiyah Offensive Foiled

JN032022 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Aug (INA) — It was announced here tonight that the Iranian offensive in the Zurbatiyah area in the central sector of the battlefield has been foiled. The good news of the vicotry was conveyed to President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, by the II Army Corps commander, who holds the rank of staff major general, in a cable broadcast here a short while ago. The Army corps commander praised the heroism of the Khalid forces and the other forces operating with it in scoring this victory.

The II Army Corps commander described the battles waged by these forces throughout 22 hours as honorable, heroic epics. He added that these honorable and sacred battles were in defense of our borders, justice, and dignity against arrogance and haughtiness as represented by Khomeyni and his clique, who are holding sway over the Iranian people, and by their inhuman practices against their peoples who are being sent to the crematorium of death.

In his cable the II Army Corps commander promised the Iraqi leadership to continue fighting until the criminal Iranian enemy yields to the logic of rights, justice, and humanity and until the homeland's sovereignty is safeguarded.

Military Spokesman's Statement

JN032115 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2050 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

We have Corps sector: The heroes of the II Army Corps and the command of the Khalid forces today scored splendid and great victories and taught the criminal and arrogant Iranian enemy the toughest lessons during today's valiant defensive battles in which all types of weapons were used.

By their heroic fighting and splendid persistence and steadfastness, our heroes managed to destroy enemy forces that were estimated at an infantry division, supported by armor and vehicles, and completely annihilated more than one brigade of charlatan Khomeyni guards. The known enemy losses counted today by the competent quarters amounted to 3,890 killed; a large number wounded; many others taken prisoner; 11 tanks, 15 vehicles of various types, large quantities of various weapons and military equipment destroyed, and a large quantity of serviceable weapons and equipment seized, in addition to the losses reported by the Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,174, which was issued this evening. Thus, the criminal Khomeyniite enemy has been defeated and its vanquished forces and remnants have been annihilated.

God is great and victory will be the lot of the glorious Iraqis, owners of rights and principles. Victory is only granted by Almighty God.

[Dated]3 August 1983

TV Interviews Commanders

JN032004 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Aug (INA) — Two Iraqi military commanders have refuted Iranian claims of the destruction of their armed units in the II Army Corps sector. The 506th Brigade commander, who holds the rank of staff brigadier general, said that his units waged fierce battles against the Iranian enemy forces which tried to attack our forward positions on the night of 29 July. In an interview aired by Iraqi television tonight, the commander said the battles continued until dawn today when the brigade formations managed to destroy the attacking Iranian forces.

The 502d Brigade commander, who is also a staff brigadier general, denied Iranian claims that his forces were destroyed in these battles. In a similar interview conducted at his units' forward positions in the same sector, he said that his forces are ready to confront any new enemy attempt. He added that his brigade fighters are now enjoying very high spirits following their victories in the battles against the Iranian forces and that his men's capabilities are much greater.

3 Aug Battle Analyzed

JN040916 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Zurbatiyah, east-central Iraq, 4 Aug (INA) — Yesterday evening, Wednesday, Iraqi forces in the central sector of the front decided a 22-hour battle with Iranian forces composed of one infantry division supported by armor and evhicles and more than one brigade of irregulars. The counted Iranian losses amounted to 6,300 dead, 24 tanks, 45 vehicles, and 5 armored personnel carriers destroyed, in addition to a great number of wounded and captured soliders, and various captured military equipment.

It is naturally very difficult to ascertain losses resulting from 151 combat missions by our planes and helicopters against Iranian positions, concentrations, and troop assembly points all day yesterday in the same sector. Iraqi planes were very successful in hitting targets. The pilots saw columns of smoke and flames rising from Iranian positions. Despite the great number of missions, none of our planes was hit; and despite the intensive raids, the planes had no difficulty in scoring directs hits.

Military analysts believe that Iranian losses in the central sector battles will be staggering in view of the size of the forces that were massed to launch the offensives that ended in complete failure.

Analysts say that the Iranian forces, which used to take up positions from which they could pounce on the Iraqi forces, were faced with preplanned Iraqi attacks that resulted in the enemy formations being wiped out and prevented enemy forces from realizing any of their aims. The cable sent to President Saddam Husayn by the commander of the II Army Corps last night gave final evidence that the 22-hour battle had ended in a decisive victory for Iraq.

During the Iranian preparations for the aggression, Iraqi observation posts and data-collecting centers recorded every move by the Iranian forces in all sectors of the front, following the situation with great precision. The Iraqi forces confronted enemy attempts to pounce from different positions with surprise attacks, such as the one east of Basra 3 days ago where Iraqi forces launched a surprise attack against Iranian forces and inflicted heavy losses, killing every one of them except those who fled or surrendered.

Thus, the Iranian forces are finding themselves in an unenviable position. They face one defeat after another in all areas of combat and are suffering heavy human losses in each of their attempts. With the repeated defeats and the failure to realize any tangible results by continuing the war against Iraq, increasing numbers of Iranian soldiers are despairing of the War. Many Iranian POW's have referred to this state of despair and to the fierce Iraqi attacks and the fierce nature of the attackers.

'Syrian Agents' Helped Iranians

JN040740 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0650 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Aug (INA) — The commander of Iraq's I Army Corps has revealed the participation of Syrian agents in an Iranian offensive against Iraq's northern borders late last month. In a statement issued here today, the staff major general, the commander of the I Army Corps, said that the Iranian enemy was initially capable of reaching the peak of (Qarzamand) mountain in the Hajj' Umran area through the guides of treachery and the Syrian regime's agents. Last Friday, airborne Iraqi forces wrested the mountain from the control of the Iranian forces after wiping out the Iranian units stationed there.

The commander did not rule our the possibility that the Iranian enemy might begin another adventure in the area. He said, however, that the Iraqi units are ready to foil new aggression and teach the enemy painful lessons.

Baghdad Persian: Iraq's Strength, Arms Will Defeat Iran

NC031026 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] We, the people of Iraq, love our territory very much and have every right to defend it. Ee, the people of Iraq, are devoted to our revolution and our social system. As we do not want to impose our system on anyone, we are not prepared to accept anyone's imposing his system on us. Therefore, we are determinedly fighting Khomeyni's efforts to aggress against our territory and harm our sovereignty.

During the past few years we have made Khomeyni taste the bitterness of many defeats. If Khomeyni does not take into consideration the thousands of deaths Iran has suffered and thinks only of how to quench his abominable and personal desires in order to satisfy Zionism, we have the strength to give him a bitter lesson at any time and any place, and to inflict many deaths and losses on him.

Basically, those who think Iraq wants peace because of its weakness are very wrong. Iraq now possesses one of the region's most powerful armies — an Army which is also superior in numbers. The Iraqi Army is now double the size that it was during the first days of the war. Thank God, the quantity of our arms has also inproved. Thanks to our own efforts, we have been able to acquire new and powerful weapons the likes of which no one else has.

If Khomeyni stations a few thousand soldiers in an area, we will station twice that number in front of him. If he uses a special weapon, we will use a more superior weapon. If Khomeyni thinks he can hide his abominable intentions, he is undoubtedly imagining things.

With a full sense of responsibility and without exaggerated remarks — something usually done by the whale Rafsanjani and his clique — we tell Khomeyni and his clique that if he aggresses on Iraq's borders once again at any point and at any time, we will destroy all the invading forces, and no one can complain so long as we have sincerely called for peace. Khomeyni and his followers, who have turned their backs to God and Islam and plunged Iran into insoluable problems by fighting against a Muslim country that wants to preserve its freedom and the lives of its children, should be the ones to be reproached.

We, the Iraqis, intend to talk to Khomeyni and Rafsanjani in the only language they understand — by constantly trodding on their heads with the boots of the Iraqi soldiers. This is the only answer that can be given to those who neither fear God nor feel shame in front of the people and children of Iran. If they feared God and were ashamed of the people, they would not send thousands of children and adolescents to the arenas of death. They would not push thousands of Iranian youths into the burning furnace of death.

Why do they commit such crimes? Why do they act this way? Does Iraq want to colonize Iran? Why do Khomeyni and his clique set aside the United States and fight with us? Why do they set aside the Zionists and fight with us? Why do they ignore reactionaries and fight with us? Why do they cooperate with all of these forces and fight with us? Is it because we are a liberated country? Is it because we are a country where the sepulchers of the descendants of the Prophet Muhammad, may God's prayers and peace be upon Him, are situated? Aren't we the country that hosted them when they opposed the shah's regime? Aren't these acts by Khomeyni and his clique a sign of their moral decadence and their hireling nature? They are forcing you to fight a war which will never fulfill their objective.

O people of Iran: We have stated the facts as they are, without hiding anyting. You saw that when we said that Khomeyni is stationing his forces in the Mandali district in order to carry out an aggression — and that after suffeirng heavy losses in the Hajj 'Umran region — we were telling the truth. The inhabitants of border towns saw on Baghdad television how Khomeyni and his clique sent youths and adolescents to their deaths in the recent attack in the Mehran region.

Yes, o dear Iranian brothers and sisters, as we previously warned several times, we will crush any occupying force and will turn all of them into burned corpses. What can we do? Khomeyni himself wants you to die. But those who want to live should escape and save their lives before the opportunity is lost.

Foreign Minister Pays Brief Visit to Turkey

For reportage on Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz' trip to Ankara, including his meeting with President Evren, see the Turkey section of the 3 and 4 August *Daily Reports*.

'Aziz Returns From Visit

JN032140 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2105 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Aug (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned here tonight from Ankara following a 2-day visit. During his visit, the Iraqi minister conveyed an oral message from President Saddam Husayn to Turkish President Kenan Evren dealing with the developing relations between Iraq and Turkey and the situation in the region. He also held talks on issues of common interest with Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu and Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen.

Housing Minister Receives Cuban Delegation

JN031212 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Aug (INA) — Muhammad Fadil Husyan, minister of housing and reconstruction, this morning met with Manuel Torres, vice president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation and vice president of the Cuban side in the Iraqi-Cuban Joint committee for trade, economic, and technical cooperation, as well as the accompanying delegation currently visiting Iraq. During the meeting a review was made of the Iraqi-Cuban committee's minutes and the steps it had adopted to promote and develop bilateral technical and economic relations.

Ba'th Party Official Returns From Cuba

JN031216 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Aug (INA) — Muhammad Hamzah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member, returned here today after heading an official and party delegation to celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada Barracks. During the visit, Hamzah conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to Cuban President Fidel Castro, who asked Hamzah to convey his greetings and best wishes to the Iraqi president.

During the meeting with Cuban President Fidel Castro Hamzah reviewed the developments of the war of aggression which the Iranian regime is waging against our country and explaiend Iraq's capability of burying any aggression against our international borders. He also reviewed Iraq's stands and efforts to establish peace, stressing Iraq's endeavor to reach a just and honorable solution to the dispute.

Popular Rally Condemns Hebron Massacre
JN040815 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Amman — Representatives of the trade unions and men of religion in Jordan have condemned the Israeli occupation authorities' aggression gainst the Palestinian students in the Islamic University in occupied Hebron. Speakers participating in the popular rally held today at the trade union complex condemned the Israeli occupation authorities' practices agaisnt the kinfolk in the occupied homeland.

The speakers reviewed Israel's expansionist policies aimed at emptying the land of its original inhabitants through the construction of settlements there. They spoke highly of the kinfolk's steadfastness in the occupied homeland and their heroic stand in the face of Israel's suppressive practices, which are also meant to obliterate the Palestinian identity. They called for joint Arab action to confront the Israeli authorities' designs and expansionist desires at the expense of the Arab land. They also called on the brothers-in-arms in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' to resort to democratic dialogue to resolve their differences.

Those present observed 1 minute of silence at the beginning of the rally in memory of the martyrs of Hebron, martyrs of the Arab nation.

Sentences Ratified for Selling Land to Enemy
JN031946 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The Council of Ministers has ratified the sentences issued by the special court prohibiting the sale of real estate to the enemy. these sentences included acquittal, imprisonment, and execution.

Two defendants were acquitted: 'Abd al-Karim 'Abdallah Yusuf Abu ash-Sha'r and Subhi 'Abda ar-Razzaq 'Abd as-Salam 'Id from Jinsafut. Criminal 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Jabir Qasim from Hajjah and resident of Amman was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment with temporary hard labor and the confiscation of his moveable and immoveable property. The sale is considered null and void.

The court also sentenced the following absconded criminals to execution by hanging, the confiscation of their moveable and immoveable property, and considering the sale as null and void: Sadiq Rashid Baliyah from Fandaqumiyah, Mahmud Dawud Sarsur from Hablah, Hasan 'Ali Bashir from Jinsafut, Thib 'Utham Thib from Jinsafut, Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir Abu Zahidah from Jinsafut, Hasan Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir Abu Zahidah from Jinsafut, Majid 'Abd al-Karim from Immatin, Muhammad Shakir Awdah from Fandaqumiyah, Ahmad al-Haj 'Awad from Hajjah, Farid Muhammad Baliyah from Fandaqumiyah, Mufid 'Abd al-Haifz Abu al-Madaniyah from Kafr Laqif, Muhammad Shakir Da'as from Hajjah, and Hasan 'Abdallah Hasan Jum'ah from Kafr Qaddum. All the above are from Nabulus District. Salim Hamid Muhammad Hamamrah is from Husan, Bethlehem District, and Yusuf 'Ali Nimr ash-Shaykh is from Yalu and a resident of Shu'fat, Jerusalem District.

Mufti Khalid Meets Al-Jumayyil, Makes Statement

NC031245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpt] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today chaired the weekly Cabinet session in Ba'abda Palace in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and the ministers.

Earlier, President Al-Jumayyil received the Mufti of the Republic, Shaykh Hasan Khalid, who called on the Lebanese to cooperate with every responsible official to liberate the homeland and he affirmed the need for a spirit of love and dialogue to end all differences.

After the meeting the mufti said:

[Begin recording] I would like to affirm that every meeting between us and the president or any other responsible official aims to achieve goals, the most important of which is to liberate the country and to endeavor to restore the country's freedom, independence, sovereignty, and glory. Secondly, we would like to achieve national coexistence in a complete democratic and noble way and at the same time on the basis of freedom, justice, fraternity, and equality. Thirdly, our means for achieving our goals is through a good word, wisdom, constructive dialogue, by consolidating all means of cooperation, and by strongly and sincerely supporting every deed or effort that can possible lead to minimizing the differences and defusing the conflicts among the sons of the one homeland. This will subsequently lead to holding constructive and useful meetings which will achieve the sublime goal we are currently seeking.

Our meeting with the president today was withing this framework and these bases. We heard the president talk about his visit to the United States. We also discussed the domestic situation, the south, the mountain, the north, Al-Biqa', and whatever takes place in the Lebanese territory, be it in Greater Beirut or other areas, including those practices which are inconsistent with the real objective we are seeking and which are incompatible with the Lebanese interest and our second goal to liberate Lebanon, the land, and various establishments. We reviewed all these points. The atmosphere was consistent and we obtained knowledge of many facts at this meeting.

I would like to affirm that the meeting and the talks between the president and I today were not outside the framework of the statement I made on the Al-Fitr feast and the principles and bases which I have just clearly declared. [end recording]

Cabinet To Hold Extraordinary Session 4 August

NC031418 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The Cabinet will hold an extraordinary session tomorrow evening to study bills and topics on the agenda.

Today's Cabinet session was devoted to discussion of the political, security, and economic developments. At the end of the meeting Information Minister Roger Shaykhani said:

[Begin recording] This session was devoted to a general discussion of political, security, and economic issues. His excellency, the president, and then the prime minister briefed the ministers on some of the issues under discussion. The discussion went on for a long time as you have noticed, and the discussion was adjourned until tomorrow. The discussion of topics on the agenda was also put off until tomorrow. [end recording]

Al-Wazzan Discusses Israeli Withdrawal, Detente

NC032219 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has stated that the regime has entered a new stage of achieving the cherished goal —the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

In an exclusive television interview, Prime Minister Al-Wazzan referred to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement saying: We sought in the first stage to reach an agreement according to which Israel would withdraw from all the Lebanese territory it occupies because the liberation of Lebanon is a liberation of the Arab land and every person belonging to the Arab world should be proud of this. Prime Minister al-Wazzan emphasized that Israel's proviso that it will not withdraw if the Syrian Army does not withdraw is not included in the agreement. In view of the fact that this proviso is not included in the agreement, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said, we dealt with it in a separate letter. If the Israelis do not withdraw, we will not be committed by this agreement. We can cancel this agreement or suspend it according to the dictates of the Lebanese interest.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan added: The option is ours. We have first seen certain stands which made the Israelis insist on not effecting a complete withdrawal according to what we agreed upon. Therefore, we have suspended all the measures connected with the implementation of the agreement. Although the agreement was ratified by the Chamber of Deputies, the law pertaining to the agreement has not yet been published. Even if it is published, the exchange of the instruments of ratification remains the main condition of the final stage for the implementation of the agreement. What good is it if we implement some provisions of this agreement which benefit Israel and we do not achieve for ourselves the main gain that we have sought — the total Israeli withdrawal from all Lebanese territory. What good is it if we hold with Israel any discussions connected with the partial withdrawal? Israel must withdraw completely from the Lebanese territory because it has entered it as an occupier.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan spoke about the presidential visit to Washington saying: What we have achieved during this visit to the United States is a firm U.S. conviction of the correctness of our view that we absolutely cannot accept the partial withdrawal. He said: In the first contact with the new U.S. working team under McFarlane's leadership, we sought to explain to the team a fact from which we will not deviate; this fact is the total withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Regarding the situation in the mountain area, Prime Minister Al-Wazzan said: We must differentiate between the national

detente and the security detente. The national detente is a detente among all the Lebanese. The events which took place in Lebanon over the past 8 years dictated taking many steps to achieve the detente. Every time the Lebanese made progress toward consolidating the foundations of the national detente, a new wave of events broke out to wipe out the detente and its principles. The events, which we have become accustomed to calling the plot on the land, continued.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan went on: As long as we are not yet the full masters of our Lebanese will and as long as we have not closed the gaps from which the winds blow on us, and as long as those fighting on our land are not yet convinced that it is necessary to put an end to their actions, then every new national accord on the general level will be subject to our past experience with the constitutional document and the 14 principles. We must continue our efforts. There are many sincere persons working in this field.

He added: We must discriminate between this broad accord which we seek and the security accord. What is happening in the mountain area now is that the security accord is missing because of certain conditions arising from the presence of the occupation forces there and of the presence of new forces. This presence created many problems which we tried to confront. It is most regrettable, however, that this presence has helped the continuation of the fighting, which we confronted many times with a view to ending it. However, the forces that move these events do not wish, most regrettably, to end them.

Yugoslav Envoy Arrives on 'Exploratory Mission'

NC022121 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] Yugoslav Assistant Foreign Minister Dimitar Janevski arrived in Beirut at 2020 today as envoy of the SFRY presidency on an exploratory mission.

The Yugoslav official made a statement in which he said he will hold consultations in the Foreign Ministry in view of the strong ties and good relations between Yugoslavia and Lebanon. Janevski will meet with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Chamber of Deputies Deputy Speaker Munir Abu Fadil, and Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk.

Al-Wazzan Receives Envoy

NC030948 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] At 0915 today, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan received at the Government House Yugoslav envoy Dimitar Janevski who was accompanied by Yugoslav Ambassador to Lebanon Radmilo Trojanovic. Prime Minister al-Wazzan reviewed with the Yugoslav envoy the political developments in Lebanon and the Middle East.

The meeting lasted until 1000 after which the Yugoslav envoy said: We discussed with Prime Minister al-Wazzan the current situation in Lebanon and in the area and bilateral relations. He added that he was only on a mission in the area and that he carried no message for Prime Minister al-Wazzan.

Sources Deny Report on Israeli Redeployment

NC031823 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Quoting official military sources in Tel Aviv, AFP reported this evening that the redeployment of the Israeli Army along the Al-'Awwali River line north of Sidon has begun and is proceeding quickly according to plan.

Commenting on this subject, our correspondent George Shahin says:

[Begin recording] Indeed, in reaction to the urgent dispatch from Israel this evening, we held several contacts with various Lebanese security quarters, particularly in the mountain area. These security quarters have confirmed this information or this statement, but they did not [word indistinct]. At the same time, they affirmed that all the security guardposts, particularly in the 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf areas, have not noticed any evacuation of Israeli positions in these areas. They also have not noticed any unusual movement of Israeli convoys. These informed security sources said that such reports are mere psychological warfare, and they expressed surprise at such reports particularly since they were issued by an Israeli security source during the U.S. envoy's presence in Israel at this time.

Meanwhile, a local news agency has reported that the Israeli forces entered Ma'asir ash-Shuf at 1800 yesterday and disarmed the Lebanese Forces of their light and heavy weapons. We contacted the Lebanese Forces about this story, and their sources denied this report. They affirmed that there is no presence, in the form of men, barracks, or headquarters, in Ma'asir ash-Shuf. The town serves as a position for elements other than the Lebanese forces. [end recording]

Israeli Official Denies Redeployment

NC031913 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 3 Aug 8

[Text] Tonight's bulletin starts with a report from Israel and from Lebanon on the subject which has been one of the main concerns of recent diplomatic exchanges and political discussions.

According to press agency reports earlier this evening, authorized military sources in Tel Aviv have said that the redeployment of the Israeli army north of the Al-'Awwali River had already begun and was going ahead rapidly. It was also said that the Israeli forces were now half way between their previous line and the new one and affirmed that the new positions were [words indistinct] to be permanent fortifications. The military sources explained that there were (?men) to provide greater comfort for the enjoyment of troops in the event of them having to spend a second winter in Lebanon.

However, in a telephone contact with the spokesman of the Israeli Liaison Office at Al-Yarzi, Radio Free Lebanon has learned

from the official that there has been denial that the redeployment has started. He said that the operation in progress was one of pure routine involving normal [word indistinct] replacement of vehicles. He said that there had been misunderstanding in press circles.

Kafr Falus Barracks Disturbances Continue

NC031311 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Since yesterday, the Kafr Falus barracks have been turning into something similar to a national festival. There has been an influx of citizens wanting to participate in this festival. These citizens have been arriving at these barracks on foot from the Jazzin, Az-Zahrani, and Sidon areas. They have been coming on side roads and through the woods since the Israeli forces used tanks and barricades to cut the main roads linking Kafr Falus to the southern area. Furthermore, the Israeli forces have brought additional men and vehicles to reinforce their forces within and around these barracks. The Israelis' mixing with the compatriots and with the Lebanese Forces personnel has sometimes led to scuffles between the two sides.

The residents have grouped within the barracks and formed dancing rings. Women utter shrills and cheer for the long life of the Lebanese Forces, of the Lebanese authority, and of the Phalange Party. The residents display pictures of President Amin al-Jumayyil and of martyr President Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil inside the barracks and at the crossroads. Lebanese and Phalangist flags are also raised. The citizens sat on the ground around the barracks after the thousands of arrivals made it impossible to accommodate everyone within the barracks. At 1030 holy mass was celebrated inside the barracks.

The Israeli forces cut the Sidon-Beirut road this morning, and then reopened it at 1030. The Israeli forces also prevented newsmen from going to (?Kafr Falus). Those newsmen who arrived were beaten up and insulted.

These developments have affected the educational state of affairs in the area. The official baccalaureate examination — part one, literature — has been at a standstill since yesterday because the roads are closed. Also because of the present situation, newspapers and magazines have not been recieved in the southern area.

Contacts and efforts are continuing but have not produced any results. The residents and the Lebanese Forces insist on refusing to accept the Israeli decision, while the Israelis still adhere to their position.

Beirut Reports Situation Unchanged

NC031250 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpt] In the south, the situation is unchanged in respect of Kafr Falus. Our correspondent reports that the Israeli forces are inside Kafr Falus after reinforcing their presence last night with new personnel and vehicles. Meanwhile, the citizens and party members are still stationed inside the center refusing to hand it over to the Israeli forces. The villages and towns in Jazzin and Az-Zahrani districts are still observing a general strike.

Phalangist, Israeli 'Understanding' Reported

NC032040 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The Lebanese Forces 5th Branch has issued the following: A meeting was held in the Lebanese forces Kafr Falus barracks on 2 August 1983. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Israeli Defense Forces in south Lebanon and representatives of the Lebanese Forces in the southern sector. A complete understanding was reached to settle all pending problems between the two sides. These problems were the result of a flaw in the coordination of some issues.

The two sides have expressed full understanding after this passing cloud because they are fully aware of the joint interests.

It has been learned from informed sources that it has been agreed that the Israelis will withdraw the additional forces which besieged the barracks, that the strike in the southern region and the sit-in inside the barracks will end and that normal life will be restored.

SANA Cites Amal's Birri on Southern Lebanon

JN031439 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1335 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Beirut, 3 Aug (SANA) — Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement, has criticised the official and private media's disregard of what is taking place in southern Lebanon and their preoccupation with less important matters.

After presiding over a meeting yesterday of the Amal Movement command, Birri said: The recent arrest campaign carried out by the Israeli invasion forces which affected some of Amal's leaders and cadres, the economic measures which attended it, and the attempts to fragment southern Lebanon, all require confrontation with all the capabilities which we have as a state and a people.

Birri called for intensifying strikes and sit-ins until all the detainees are released. He appealed to Lebanese, Arab, and international public opinion to act within this framework to halt this Israeli onslaught which aims to wipe out southern Lebanon's identity.

Governor's Statement on Situation in Al-Biqa'

NC031315 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] In Al-Biqa', tension prevails in Ba'labakk in the wake of yesterday's shelling of residential quarters. An open strike was staged today in the city protesting the shelling to which the inhabitants have been exposed.

Following today's meeting of the national security subcouncil of Al-Biqa' province, Al-Biqa' Governor Diyab Yunis said:

[Begin recording] The situation through which Al-Biqa' and the citizens are living was today discussed at the national security subcouncil which convened in the province's headquarters. We discussed several affairs, most of which focused on the Palestinian conflict and the subsequent evacuation of Lebanese families who turned toward the north and toward central Al-Biqa' at times in search of more secure or less dangerous places.

We also discussed the recent events in Ba'labakk, particularly the attack on the Army barracks and its implications. We also dealt with social and development questions. For this purpose, we held immediate contacts with the appropriate ministers and with the social development department. Some social assistance will be extended to evacuees, victims, and needy families. [end recording]

Libyan Soldiers' Bodies Found in Al-Biqa'

NC031937 (Clandestine) Radio of Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' has reported that the bodies of 1 officer and 10 Libyan soldiers were discovered in the region of Al-Fa'ur.

Radio Comments on Lebanon, Palestinian Government

Israeli Ambitions Condemned

JN031753 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] More than 1 year has passed since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and more than 1 year has also passed since the Israeli occupation of one-third of Lebanon. No Lebanese or U.S. leader can give an approximate or accurate date for the withdrawal of the invasion forces, whose hands are stained with Lebanese and Palestinian blood and who violated international charters, laws, and resolutions. Despite the fact that the UN Security Council has strongly condemned the brutal Israeli practices in Lebanon and called for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the invasion forces from Lebanon, the Israeli rulers are trying to entrench their presence in southern Lebanon, which they consider an extention of their air security and a vital zone for that security.

Israel has evil ambitions in southern Lebanon, and there is no connection between the Israeli occupation of that area and the alleged security of the Jewish settlements north of Galilee. The Israeli newspaper *Haolam Hazeh*, in June 1983, said that the Israeli settlements in Galilee had not been exposed to a military operation in 11 months. If the Lebanese rulers want to know the reality of the Israeli ambitions in Lebanon and in Lebanese waters, they should refer to the memorandum submitted to the Versailles conference in 1919 and to Hirzl's writings. These documents prove the Zionists have ambitions to Lebanese territory.

Some appointed Lebanese sides believe that cooperation with Israel might help them against some dangers. Cooperation cannot eliminate the Israeli ambitions. They are not fully aware that such cooperation will threaten Lebanon's unity, territory, waters, space, independence, and role in its natural Arab environment. The Zionist ambitions exist and they are based on a certain strategy. No temporary tactics or short-phased alliances can change that strategy. Any threat to Lebanon comes from Israeli aspirations, from Zionist plans to dominate the region, and from Israeli economic ambitions.

Syria, the Arabs, as well as the Palestinian people, who were made homeless and were deprived of their natural rights, do not pose any threat to Lebanon. Syria does not resist Lebanon's existence and has no regional demands. The Palestinian people will not accept Lebanon as an alternative homeland. Any attempt to treat Syria and the Palestinians on equal footing with Israel is a deliberate provocation and does not express any realism or loyalty to Lebanon and its vital interests. Such an attempt would serve Israeli occupation and ambitions and enable the United States to exploit Lebanon to put pressure on Syria and the Arabs, who reject affiliation and capitulation.

Syria has been and will remain with Lebanon to liberate its territories from the Israeli invasion. Syria will also support Lebanon's people and the itegrity of its territory, because there is no conflict between Syria's national and pan-Arab interests and the existence of a unified Lebanon that enjoys sovereignty and independence. Any attempt to distort Syria's position will be considered as an attempt to fabricate a battle with Syria and to avoid national responsibility of confronting the Israeli invaders, who have ambitions to Lebanon's territory, waters, sovereignty, and independence.

Those who want to liberate Lebanon and preserve its waters should think of the south, where the invaders are, and work to remove the invaders and their threat. Any side that wants Lebanon to be independent and unified will find Syria beside it.

Government-in-Exile Rejected

JN031745 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Palestine broadcast: "From on the Events" program]

[Text] Since 1973, some rightist Palestinian symbols have been thinking of the formation of a government-in-exile. In 1973 the factions of the Palestinian resistance, bases, and cadres expressed their opinions on the idea of forming a government-in-exile. They said that the formation of a government-in- exile would be possible during the final stages of struggle, when the revolution was very close to victory. They also said that the framework of Palestinian struggle during this stage and the previous stages would not change.

The basis of this framework is the continuation of armed struggle until the homeland is liberated. A Palestinian government-in-exile would be formed at the expense of the armed struggle in favor of political action and attempts to reach a political solution to the conflict. Since a political solution to the conflict cannot be just unless the balance of forces is in favor of the Arab and Palestinian sides, the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile in order to work as an alternative to the PLO, on the one hand, and to be a party in negotiations which seek to settle the Palestinian question, on the other, is a backward and defeatist step which seeks to offer concessions to the U.S.-Israeli intransigent refusal to recognize the PLO. It does not matter even if these concessions are on the relinquishment of the Palestinian struggle, the Palestinian people's legitimate entity, and the Palestinian armed struggle. Such concessions would inevitable lead to the relinquishment of the Palestinian rights. Moreover, it would be similar to As-Sadat's course; in fact, it would be more serious and hideous.

The Palestinian masses and their vanguard fighters who are aware of this fact are determined to foil the idea of forming a Palestinian government-in-exile and to save the PLO.

U.S. Envoy McFarlane Continues Mediation Talks

Meeting With Minister Shamir

TA031120 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today rejected a Lebanese demand that Israel again pledge that the IDF redeployment constitutes part of a comprehensive withdrawal to the international border. This demand was relayed by U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane. Minister Shamir told him that Israel had already made its position publicly known, and is furthermore prepared to repeat it directly to the Lebanese Government.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the foreign minister again expressed the desire to know why the Lebanese Government is not submitting an official request to Syria to withdraw its forces. Another issue that was raised during the meeting was the Lebanese Government's postponement of the ratification of the accord with Israel. The U.S. emissary said on behalf of the Lebanese Government that it abides by the agreement, but that this is not the right time for ratification. Minister Shamir emphasized that Israel attributes great importance to this because such a move could persuade Syria that it would not be able to bring about its revocation.

Robert McFarlane held a working meeting with Foreign Minister Director General David Kimche this afternoon, and also conferred with the head of the IDF Planning Branch, Major General Menahem 'Eynan. He is scheduled to meet with the defense minister later this afternoon, and to meet with the prime minister tomorrow. He will only visit Damascus at the end of the week.

Meeting With Arens

TA031700 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has told U.S. emissary Robert McFarlane that Israel wants to coordinate positions with every echelon and level in Lebanon, including the military and political ones, even though at this stage the IDF's redeployment in Lebanon is involved.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Arens asked the U.S. envoy to get Lebanon to ratify the agreement between the two countries. In their talk, McFarlane repeated Lebanon's demand that prior to its redeployment, Israel publish a detailed timetable for its withdrawal to the international border. Arens totally rejected the demand, and this afternoon Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir also rejected it.

Begin Meets With McFarlane

TA040918 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0855 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane said this morning after his talk with Prime Minister Menahem Begin that his talks yesterday and today in Jerusalem were very helpful and promoted greater understanding of the two sides' differences. This, he noted, ensures progress.

He went on to say that the evacuation of all foreign forces from Lebanon is at the top of the list of his Mideast mission. McFarlane said he will present the ideas he heard here in Beirut, and expressed the hope that he will be able to visit other Arab capitals.

Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that McFarlane's meeting with the prime minister lasted about an hour. After that, McFarlane left for another meeting with Foreign Minister Shamir.

Arab Pressures on Lebanon Agreement Viewed

TA031000 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 3 Aug 83 pp 1, 15

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir and from New York by Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane is presently meeting with Israeli Ministers Shamir and Arens, as well as with Prime Minister Begin. The background for the talks are U.S. Administration reports of Arab pressure to bring about a change in the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. Washington has informed Jerusalem about requests by Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries for substantial and immediate changes in the Israeli-Lebanese agreement in order to mollify Syria.

Saudi Arabia has told the U.S. Administration that in the present circumstances it cannot persuade Syria to withdraw its forces, and that Damascus makes any dialogue conditional on the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese accord.

Arab pressure on the United States has mainly been aimed at bringing about the abrogation of those parts of the agreement dealing with political issues — namely the future relations between the two countries. The Arab countries are also demanding that changes be made in the security agreement, which Syria and these countries regard as giving Israel unprecedented advantages in Lebanon.

Jerusalem has no confirmed report on the new ideas raised by McFarlane in his Beirut talks, yet Israel has decided to firmly oppose any idea that might lead to a stalemate regarding the agreement, or to changing the agreement. New York correspondent Ya'aqov Erez adds: McFarlane seeks to bring about a situation in which Israel and Syria will announce their willingness to withdraw from all of Lebanon, and will agree to set a timetable for the pullout. This was reported this morning by *The New York Times*, citing sources in Beirut.

There have been no indications so far that the Syrians will indeed agree to McFarlane's request. Israel has already announced its readiness to withdraw, and Arens and Shamir stressed this in Washington last week. Jerusalem has expressed dismay with the U.S. support for Al-Jumayyil's refusal to ratify the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. Washington holds that in the present political situation in the Middle East, the Syrians should not be

brought to bay, since this might only lead them to further harden their already tough stance. Washington regards the ratification of the agreement as merely a formal step.

IDF Troops Reportedly Redeploying 'Quickly'

NC031910 Paris AFP in English 1846 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Jerusalem, Aug 3 (AFP) — Israeli troops have begun re-deploying to the Al-'Awwali line and are proceeding quickly, authoritative military sources announced today in Tel Aviv. They said the troops had already fallen back to the level of Dhalun (Adelan in Hebrew), 20 kms (12 miles) north of the Al-'Awwali River in southern Lebanon and halfway between the previous front and the Al-'Awwali.

Observers said Israel was presenting U.S. special Middle East envoy Robert McFarlane, here on his first official trip to the region, with a harsh fait accompli, as press reports came in from Lebanon on convoys of military trucks evacuating logistical equipment and weapons to the new line.

(But in Beirut, an authoritative Lebanese military source said there had been no move by Israeli forces in either the mountains south of Beirut or on the coastal route between Beirut and Sidon to redeploy back to the Al-'Awwali line.)

Mr. McFarlane has tried in talks with Israeli officials to have the redeployment postponed in order to give the Lebanese Government more time to prepare.

Protected positions have already been put up along the new line, but this did not mean it was "fortified", the military sources said. The objective was to allow the Israeli troops to install themselves as comfortably as possible for their second winter in Lebanon. The army has dismantled its previous positions and all Israeli logistical equipment has been withdrawn, the sources added.

Israeli political sources said Mr. McFarlane's efforts here were seen as nothing more than "a delaying maneuver" on behalf of Lebanon.

POST Analyzes IDF Redeployment Preparations

TA040852 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 4 Aug 83 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] Sidon — The Israel Defence Forces have started pulling back logistics and support units from its current lines of deployment in Lebanon, and are in the first stages of building a new infrastructure along the Al-'Awwali River. According to senior military officers, the new infrastructure will be completed "within weeks." No combat units have been pulled back from the current lines. This move is awaiting a go-ahead from the government. But once the order is received, the process could be completed within a very short time.

A senior military officer said in 'Alayh yesterday afternoon that Israel will not necessarily wait for a solution as to what force will fill the vacuum left by the IDF once the redeployment is effected, but added that at this point Israel is doing all it can to insure that stability prevails. "We are cooperating in trying to find a solution," he said, "but our redeployment will not be conditional on a solution being found." Work on the 50-kilometre line is already in full swing, and yesterday 25 heavy earth-movers were busy levelling ground for a string of new positions that will run along the Al-'Awwali River, starting just north of Sidon on the Lebanese coast, and along the Bassar River to the foothills of Jabal al-Baruk and the town of 'Adlun.

Military sources told *The Post* yesterday that very soon, the number of heavy earth-moving tractors working on the new line will be doubled to about 50. All in all, over 40 kilometres of roads will be built to give the IDF units access to the positions, while over 50 kilometres of existing roads will be improved to handle more traffic. The entire redeployment will be completed before the winter. In addition to limiting Israeli casualties, the redeployment will reduce the number of men serving in Lebanon, the army predicts. No electric fence will be built along the new line, as has been reported in several newspapers, but the fortifications will be built to afford soldiers stationed there maximum security, as well as adequate protection from the harsh winter conditions typical of the area.

According to military sources, talks are being held between the Lebanese Army, members of the multinational force, and the Druze to try to find a solution for maintaining stability in the areas to be vacated by the IDF. One idea being considered is that two brigades from the Lebanese Army will take over, with the American contingent from the multinational force patrolling the Sidon-Beirut highway in the west, and the French contingent assuming responsibility for sections of the Beirut-Damascus highway. None of these arrangements have been finalized as yet, given the reluctance of the Druze to allow any of the predominantly Christian units of the Lebanese Army to move into the Ash-Shuf mountain range.

Military sources here said that they are convinced that the redeployment will limit, but not end, Israeli casualties. Since the beginning of the year, there have been 263 attacks against Israeli personnel in Lebanon, mainly on the Al-Matn range, around Beirut and in the south.

Though the IDF will remain deployed in all of southern Lebanon, military sources said that terrorists will find it harder to get material through, and Israel will be able to respond to the threat more effectively now. The source noted Tuesday's incident, in which Syrian light-arms fire was answered by an Israeli artillery and tank barrage — "a move we hope managed to get the message across." The new line of deployment will be based on a string of static fortifications, large and small, with the actual line along the Al-'Awwali being patrolled by mobile units day and night. The topography in the region will afford the IDF a tactical improvement over the current lines, and will remove the problem of Christian-Druze factional fighting from the IDF's responsibility. The line, sources stressed, will be temporary, and is being built exclusively from materials being brought out from the current line. Despite this, however, sources estimate that the redeployment will cost at least $30 million.

1983 Attacks on IDF in Lebanon Summarized

TA031653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The number of attacks in Lebanon during the first 7 months of this year has reached 263, in which the IDF suffered 32 dead and 180 wounded. These attacks include 12 explosions of booby-trapped cars, 40 mines, 65 explosive charges planted along various roads, 33 attacks on outposts, 66 attacks on vehicles, and 5 incidents of fire being directed at helicopters.

Experts Assess Syrian Army, Civilian Movements

TA031008 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 3 Aug 83 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Tali Zelinger]

[Excerpts] Experts believe that the Syrian Army has conducted exercises during which it has improved its military capability. These experts believe that the Syrian Army has largely been rehabilitated following the Lebanon war, and has also regained its self-confidence. The Syrian divisions' firepower has increased in the wake of some structural changes, and the army is constantly training its units at all levels. The experts assess, however, that Syria does not intend to launch a war against Israel at present. The incidents that have recently taken place in the eastern and central sectors of Lebanon, in which Syrian soldiers shot at IDF positions, are believed to have been local incidents aimed at drawing attention to the Syrian presence in these sectors against the backdrop of the steps taken by Israel to stage a partial withdrawal and the international pressure exerted on Syria.

The Syrians are currently busy completing the rebuilding of Al-Qunaytirah, the former capital of the Golan Heights. Following a long period during which old Al-Qunaytirah was allowed to stagnate, the Syrians have suddenly launched a building campaign in the area north of where the original city was located. This construction work is being completed these days in the new city, which has not yet been populated, although it is expected to be inhabited in the near future. Experts believe that the construction of the new city and the plans to inhabit it point to two trends: One, to maintain a normal and peaceful course of life on the Golan Heights — in other words to avoid heating up the sector — and second, to keep a firm hold over the Syrian part of the Golan Heights, signalling intentions regarding the other part, held by Israel.

IDF To Remain in Seized Phalangist Camp

TA040612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] The Phalange headquarters in Beirut says that the dispute with the IDF over the future of the base in Kafr Falus will be settled. Reports from Beirut say that the IDF has decided to lift the siege of the base and, at the same time, the Christians have decided to stop the sit-down strike around it and the protest actions that have disrupted life in several places in southern Lebanon. There is no mention of whether the Phalangists have responded to the IDF's demand to leave Kafr Falus.

Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that the IDF does not intend to leave the Phalange headquarters in Kafr Falus, but it will hold it and see to it that the Phalangists and the Lebanese civilians who are still there evacuate it within the next few days. Our correspondent was told that relations between the Phalangists and the IDF soldiers currently in the headquarters are good, and filled with understanding.

Arens Meets With Israeli Druze Leaders

TA040848 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 4 Aug 83 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv — Israeli Druze leaders yesterday asked Defence Minister Moshe Arens to get Phalange troops out of 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf mountains and to see to it that the new Israeli Defence Forces line in Lebanon does not divide their community. Arens promised to study their requests, but urged the Druze in Lebanon to reach a settlement with the government there before Israeli troops redeploy. The hour-long meeting at the minister's office here followed meetings between Israeli and Lebanese Druze leaders at An-Nabi Shu'ayb near Tiberias.

The Druze are troubled by the Phalangists' entry into areas they had controlled exclusively for years, before the IDF invaded Lebanon last year. One of the participants at yesterday's meeting, Zaki Kamal said they had complained to Arens that the Phalangists denied entry of food, water, and fuel. The Druze leaders also demanded that all Druze prisoners being held by the IDF in Lebanon br released if no security offences have been proven against them.

Envoy Rosenne Says Egypt Violating Peace Treaty

TA031047 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 3 Aug 83 p 6

[Report from Washington by Fefa'el Mann]

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Washington, Dr Me'ir Rosenne, yesterday complained to Vice President George Bush about Egypt's continuing breach of the peace treaty, evinced by its refusal to return its ambassador to Israel.

Rosenne made this statement in the get-acquainted meeting he held with Bush. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the State Department and the National Security Council.

Israeli sources have reported that in their 30-minute meeting, the U.S. vice president expressed his hope that he and Ambassador Rosenne would maintain constant links so that they could have frank and open conversations on all bilateral issues.

El Salvador To Return Embassy to Jerusalem

TA032008 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] El Salvador has decided to return its embassy to Jerusalem. Two ministers from El Salvador announced this tonight after meeting with the prime minister and the foreign minister. Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that the El Salvador embassy was moved to Tel Aviv about 3 years ago together with other diplomatic missions following the passage of the Jerusalem Law in the Knesset [the law annexing East Jerusalem to Israel].

As stated, the El Salvador ministers for economy and presidency said that they will comply with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's request and return the embassy to Jerusalem. El Salvador is the second country returning its embassy to Jerusalem. Costa Rica did so a year ago.

African Minister, Delegation Makes Secret Visit

TA031129 Jerusalem Koteret Rashit in Hebrew 3 Aug 83 p 8

[Report by Yisra'el Segal]

[Text] A senior minister from one of the important African countries is visiting Israel this week — incognito. He is the guest of the defense establishment. The minister, who arrived in Israel accompanied by a large party of advisers, will hold talks with Defense Minister Moshe Arens, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and Prime Minister Menahem Begin. The guest will request increased cooperation with Israel, primarily in the security sphere. Israel will ask for recompense in the form of indications of goodwill that will manifest the African country's readiness to establish diplomatic ties with Israel. The guests asked that their visit be kept secret.

Next week an Israeli survey team — including among others security and agricultural experts — will depart for the Central African Republic to examine bilateral cooperation opportunities. In contrast with the denials, during the visit of Finance Minister (Sylvestre Bangui) [name and title as published] a cooperation agreement between Israel and the republic was signed, and it was decided that the two countries will establish diplomatic relations. Israel is making the scope of aid it will extend to the republic in various fields conditional upon progress made in establishing formal ties. The target mentioned in the Foreign Ministry: September or October of this year.

Beginning next month, the United States and Israel will set up joint working committees that will exchange information and analyses on the African countries. This marks a drastic change in the U.S. attitude toward Israel's political ventures in the black continent. Two years ago, Israel wanted to cooperate with the United States and Europe over Africa, but the U.S. Administration showed some reluctance. However, a change has since occurred in U.S. policy. The director of the Africa Division in the Foreign Ministry, Avi Primor, has been invited to Washington twice, and was there in February and June to hold joint talks on African affairs.

Now it has been decided to establish joint working teams that will hold regular meetings and will discuss that continent's affairs. In addition to this, State Department officials have instructed their representatives to cooperate in the field with Israeli representatives. Thus, if an Israeli representative visits an African country where Israel has no representation — either official or unofficial — he will be entitled to make use of the local U.S. Embassy services. This instruction came directly from the secretary of state. The cooperation between the Africa division in Jerusalem and the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv has tightened. It was the U.S. Embassy, among others, that dealt with the release of an Israeli imprisoned in Mozambique a couple of months ago, who was interrogated by Cuban officers. The United States used the visit of the Mozambique foreign minister to Washington, that was held at the same time as that incident, to exert the necessary pressure, resulting in the release of the Israeli prisoner from jail.

Cabinet To Discuss Refugee Rehabilitation

TA031414 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1245 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The plan for the rehabilitation of refugees in the Middle East will be discussed in the Cabinet meeting during the first week of September. Yesterday Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat, the head of the Ministerial Committee for Solving the Refugees Problem, met with the prime minister and presented him with the plan for settling the refugees in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. Minister Ben-Porat said today that the intention of the plan is humanitarian and has no political nature whatsoever.

OAU Secretariat Issues Communique on Chad

AB032020 Dakar PANA in English 1820 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Dakar, 3 August (PANA) — In the wake of the dangerously deteriorating situation in Chad, a communique published today in Addis Ababa by the OAU General Secretariat recalls that the Bureau of the 19th OAU summit had appealed, during its meeting from 15 to 16 July this year, for an immediate ceasefire to enable the competent organs and African heads of state to search in the spirit of concord, for a peaceful and durable solution to the fratricidal war which has been going on in Chad for the past two decades.

The OAU communique emphasized that the escalation of the present violence and its grave repercussions in human and material terms could touch off a war of immeasurable dimensions and consequences for the peace and understanding of the people of Chad.

The OAU appealed strongly for a ceasefire to facilitate discussions and the instauration of a constructive dialogue in the spirit of the conclusions of the Bureau of the 19th summit.

Standing Committee May Convene

AB031900 Dakar PANA in English 1830 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Dakar, 3 August (PANA) — Sources close to the OAU General Secretariat say that President Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo has offered to host an emergency meeting of the OAU Standing Committee on Chad.

Consultations are underway at the heads of state level to convene this meeting which the OAU interim secretary general, Dr Peter Onu, considers "urgent because the escalation of the war in Chad is detrimental to African countries."

The OAU Standing Committee on Chad is the organ which made it possible for the different factions in Chad to negotiate and conclude the Lagos agreement. It is composed of the following countries: Sudan, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Nigeria, Niger, Libya, Congo, Benin, Senegal, Togo and the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.

LIBYA

U.S. Military Experts To Train Habre Forces

LD041024 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0925 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Aug (JANA) — U.S. Defense Department sources have announced that a number of American military experts have arrived in Ndjamena under the pretext of training Hissein Habre's forces in the use of the antiaircraft missiles that the United States has sent to the rebel Habre clique as part of the continuous arms shipments that the Reagan administration has decided to employ in Chad against the forces of the Legitimate Government of National Unity.

Bardai Radio revealed earlier that black U.S. soldiers participated in the fighting on the side of the Ndjamena rebel forces during the battles that took place around Abeche and Faya-Largeau.

Informed sources in Paris said today that the U.S. military experts will themselves use the Redeye antiaircraft missiles. Thus the Reagan administration will have entered as a direct party into the fighting which is raging between Chadians; this falls within the framework of the American plan to internationalize the conflict in Chad and implement the aims of this plan to serve the imperialist strategy in Chad. One must understandwhat Washington is concocting by its flagrant military intervention in Chad's internal affairs. It is becoming clear that Washington's aim includes making Chad yield to an aggression against Libya.

We must be aware of the fact that the American danger is being escalated in a flagrant manner that confirms the Reagan administration's desire to exacerbate the situation and create hotbeds of tension presaging an explosion. It must moreover be noted that the repeated American charges alleging that Libya is intervening in Chad are flagrant provocations aimed at giving the United States a pretext for direct invervention in Chad, a fact which has been clearly confirmed to us.

Thus it is becoming evident in political spheres that a superpower, namely the United States, has played an ugly role in a clear blackmail operation to carry out military intervention under the screen of false claims that it is seeking stability and security in Chad. It is now removing its mask itself to confirm the use of gunboat policy and force for the purpose of subversive hegemony in Africa.

Al-'Ubaydi Denies Libya Bombing Chadian Town

LD031548 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 3 Aug (JANA) — Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary for foreign liaison, received African ambassadors accredited to the Jamahiriyah in Tripoli this morning.

The brother secretary for foreign liaison informed the African ambassadors about the situation in Chad and the false claims of the rebel Habre's gang that Libyan aircraft are carrying out air raids against the city of Faya Largeau.

He firmly denied that these false claims have any foundation, and stressed that they are an attempt to distort the Jamahiriyah's position, which calls for an end to foreign intervention in that country's affairs, especially the overt intervention by America and France. Its stance also calls for achieving security and peace through national reconciliation among the conflicting groups of the people of Chad.

He explained that these false accusations by the Ndjamena rebel gang are aimed at disturbing the continuous consultations that the Jamahiriyah is holding with the OAU to arrive at a complete cease-fire in Chad. In this respect he pointed out that the Jamahiriyah has previously officially asked the OAU and President Mengistu Haile Mariam, current OAU chairman, to send a committee to investigate the facts and confirm the falsity of the claims that the rebels are spreading from Ndjamena against the Jamahiriyah about its interference in Chad's affairs.

Brother al-'Ubaydi said that the Jamahiriyah has asked the OAU to stop the overt U.S.-French intervention and to condemn it, because it will lead to the internationalization of the conflict in Chad. The Jamahiriyah has also asked the organization to work for achieving peace in Chad through national reconciliation.

During this meeting, the brother secretary of foreign liaison informed the African ambassadors accredited to the Jamahiriyah about the movements of the U.S. Sixth Fleet off Libyan shores, saying that these movements constitute a clear provocation and threats of aggression against the Libyan Arab people.

Chad's Goukouni Says Two Cities Captured

LD031708 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Bardai, 3 Aug (JANA) — President Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Chad Transitional National Union Government, issued a statement a short while ago stating that his forces have captured the cities of (Kla'it) and Oum Chalouba. He also said that his forces are now besieging the city of Biltine.

Public Works Minister 'Confirms' Habre Dead

LD031959 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1936 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Bardai, 3 Aug (JANA) — The minister of public works in the so-called government of Habre has confirmed the death of Hissein Habre yesterday in the town of Faya-Largeau.

These confirmations came in statement made by the minister of public works, who was captured in the battles which raged in the town of Oum Chalouba and which fell in the hands of the forces of the Legitimate Government of National Unity.

The captured minister declared that Libya did not take part in the battles which took place between the forces of the Legitimate Government of National Unity, led by Goukouni Oueddei, and the forces of Hissein Habre.

Forces Capture Chad Youth Ministry Under Secretary

LD040937 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0905 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Bardai, 4 Aug (JANA) — The Legitimate Government of National Unity has announced that its forces have captured the under secretary of the Ministry of Youth in the so-called Habre government. A communique released in this respect says that the forces of the legitimate government of unity captured the under secretary of the Ministry of Youth during the fighting in Oum Chalouba leading to its fall into the hands of the forces of the legitimate government of unity.

Radio Bardai announced last night that the forces of the legitimate government of unity captured the minister of public works of the so-called Habre government, and that during his interrogation the latter confirmed reports about the killing of Hissein Habre in Faya-Largeau.

ANSA: Diplomatic Spokesman Discusses Chad

AU031958 Rome ANSA in English 1920 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] — Rome, August 3 — The Libyan diplomatic office here today issued a "categorical" denial of any form of Libyan intervention in Chad, but warned that the north African state will "safeguard its security" if the international community does not halt U.S. and French military intervention in support of Chad President Hissein Habre.

The spokesman for the Libyan Jamahiriyah's People's Office (embassy) here, 'Ali 'Attiya, told ANSA that imperialist countries (the United States and France) and their "reactionary" allies in Africa (Egypt, Sudan, and Zaire) are planning to extend what was hitherto a "conflict internal to Chad" to the whole region.

"The Libyan Jamahiriyah feels directly attacked," Attia added, appealing to all "peace-loving peoples", including Italy, to prevent the conflict's enlargement.

Otherwise, he said, "there will be very ugly consequences for international relations, peace, and world stability".

According to the spokesman, the Tripoli government will continue with its neutral stance over Chad, entrusting its hopes for a peaceful solution to the civil war in the Organization of African Unity.

'Attiya told ANSA that reports of Libyan air attacks on Faya Largeau in northern Chad are "completely false" and invented by "imperialist propaganda to justify intervention in Africa."

He added that those who claim Libyans are present in Chad must produce evidence, charging Chad officials with trying to pass off peasants from the northern part of the country as Libyan soldiers.

The spokesman would say nothing about a Libyan news agency report claiming Habre's death yesterday, but he pointed out that Habre has not denied the report in person and has not been seen in public. He added that Tripoli is hoping Chad will get a new "national conciliation" government like the one which former President Goukouni Oueddei, who is now trying to oust Habre, headed before he was defeated by Habre, then defense minister, in 1981.

"The Oueddei government is the only legitimate one," he said in reference to the rebel administration led by [word indistinct] former president. "It must be defended in the interests of peace".

OAU Requested To Verify Noninterference in Chad

LD032300 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1920 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 3 Aug (JANA) — The People's Bureau of Foreign Liaison has informed African ambassadors to the Jamahiriyah that Libya has officially asked the OAU to send a fact-finding commission to Chad to verify that Libya was not interfering in Chadian internal affairs.

The secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, 'Abd al-'Ati al-"Ubaydi, told the ambassadors during his meeting with them today that the Jamahiriyah insists on the dispatching of this commission and has sent an urgent note to the OAU asking it to send the commission as soon as possible.

Al-'Ubaydi Receives New Moroccan Envoy

LD032136 Tripoli JANA in English 1745 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 24, August 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mr 'Abd al-'Ali al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison People's Bureau, has received the credentials of the new Moroccan ambassador to the Jamahiriyah, Mr Abdelhakim al-Iraqi.

Mr al-'Ubaydi warmly welcomed the new ambassador and hailed the cooperation between the two countries following the leader of the revolution's visit, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Morocco.

Libyan-Moroccan Cooperation Talks Begin

LD032230 Tripoli JANA in English 1840 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 24, August 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Arab Libyan-Moroccan joint committee meetings started this morning.

The Libyan side was headed by Muhammad az-Zuwayy, secretary of the General People's Committee of Justice, while the Moroccan side was headed by Driss Basri, the Moroccan minister of interior.

On the Arab Libyan side the participants were Musa Abu Furaywah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industry, Muhammad al-Mabruk, secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Services and secretary of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Morocco and specialists from various secretariats. From the Moroccan side the participants were: Azzedine Guessous, minister of trade and tourism, Mohamed Arsalane el Jadidi, minister of labour and

national revival, as well as the Moroccan ambassador at the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Muhammad az-Zuwayy, secretary of General People's Committee of Justice delivered a speech at the opening session of the meeting in which he welcomed the members of the Moroccan delegation and expressed hope that this meeting will be a good starting point for further cooperation between the two brotherly people in all fields and a serious start to bring nearer the day of Arab unity.

The secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice confirmed the importance of working towards uniting efforts and eliminating obstacles to attain the aim of unified Arab people.

Then Driss Basri, the Moroccan minister of interior delivered a speech praising the importance of the leader's visit to Morocco and his meeting with King Hassan II.

He added: "Our visit is totally devoted to improve cooperation in the economic, political, and social fields and to create a basis for joint action in order to face the common enemy". In this speech he also confirmed the Moroccan side's readiness to concentrate all efforts in order to achieve the aims of the two brotherly people.

The Libyan-Moroccan joint committee examined the agreement signed between the two countries and subcommittees were formed in the fields of economy, culture, security, justice, and exchange of labour. The subcommittees will continue their meetings this evening in Tripoli.

MOROCCO

Hassan Greets Envoy to Libya, Commission Members

LD031352 Rabat MAP in English 1207 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Skhirat (Rabat), Aug 3 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco received Mr Abdelhakim al-Iraqi, whom the monarch appointed new ambassador of Morocco to Libya.

Addressing the newly appointed ambassador, King Hassan II said: "Your first mission is to consolidate ties between the Moroccan and Libyan states for the welfare of the grand Maghreb and to endeavor for the unification of Arab ranks, which in the current circumstances, need to be cemented".

The ceremony was attended by General Moulay Abdel-Hafid Alaoui, minister of the royal household, protocol and chancellery, the king's advisers, Mr Ahmed Rida Guedira and Mr Ahmed Ben Souda and the secretary of state for foreign affairs, Mr Abdelhaq Tazi.

Mr Abdelhakim al-Iraqi was ambassador of Morocco to West Germany.

On the other hand, the monarch received the members of the ministerial commission foreseen by the joint Moroccan-Libyan communique that [was] released at the end of the visit of Libya's leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Morocco.

This delegation which comprises the minister of interior, Mr Driss Basri, the minister of labor, Mr Arsalane el Jadidi, the minister of commerce, industry and tourism, Mr Azzedine Guessous and the newly appointed ambassador of Morocco to Libya, will soon head for the Libyan Jamahiriyah for talks with Libyan officials as part of the establishment of close cooperation ties between the two brotherly countries.

KENYA

Njonjo Inquiry Commission Sworn In 3 August

EA031644 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The judicial commission set up to inquire into allegations against the suspended minister for constitutional affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo, was today sworn in by Mr Justice Sachdeva of the High Court.

The members are the chairman, Mr Justice Miller, Mr Justice Madan, and Justice Effie Owuor, and the two joint secretaries to the commission, Messrs Jared Benson Kangwana and Benjamin Patrick Kubo. The ceremony was witnessed by the attorney general, Mr Matthew Muli.

TANZANIA

Zambian Party Official Delivers Kaunda Message

EA031717 Dar es salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Dar es salaam: President Nyerere today received a special message from Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda. It was delivered to mwalimu by Ndugu Reuben Kamanga, a Central Committee member of the Zambian ruling party, UNIP. The contents of the message were not disclosed. Ndugu Kamanga arrived in the country yesterday and will leave later today for Nairobi, where he is expected to deliver a similar message to Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi.

While at Msasani [Nyerere's residence] Ndugu Kamanga was accompanied by the minister for foreign affairs, Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim, the Zambian high commissioner to Tanzania, and other government leaders. Earlier, the Zambian minister for foreign affairs, Ndugu Lameck Goma, who is in Blantyre, delivered a message from Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda to Malawi President Kamazu Banda. No details were released regarding the message. Ndugu Goma, who arrived in Blantyre last Monday, ends his 3-day visit to the country today.

UGANDA

Prime Minister Condemns Bandit Activities

EA032303 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The government has strongly condemned yesterday's attack on a bus in which 14 people including the driver and three women were killed instantly between Nakasongola and Katugo on the Nakasongola-Kampala road.

In a statement to Parliament this afternoon, the Prime Minister, Mr Otema Alimadi, declared that the government condemned in no uncertain terms this kind of heinous crime against innocent citizens. Government, he went on, is determined to safeguard each individual's security and property. And to this end the security forces will have the full backing of government in their efforts to combat banditry activities to the end.

He appealed to both sides of the House, and particularly to the MPs whose constituencies are rampant with banditry activities and all well-meaning Ugandans to join hands in putting an end to the scourge of senseless killings and destruction of property.

I also wish, the prime minister added, to appeal to the general public to give information which will enable the security forces to immobilize the bandits.

Mr Otema Alimadi assured the House and indeed the whole nation that the government would spare neither effort nor force to eliminate the evil activities of bandits and their collaborators.

He told the House that yesterday morning between 7 and 7:30 a.m. about 50 bandits attacked two buses at (Chakonywa) village between Nakasongola and Katugo on the Nakasongola-Kampala road. The buses were travelling within half an hour of each other.

The first bus was attacked by a man dressed in combat uniform. He shot at the bus and injured the driver. However, the driver continued up to Kakoge. No other passenger was injured.

Thirty minutes after this incident, a second vehicle, a Tata bus belonging to (Shanyi) Transport Co, carrying about 70 passengers was attacked by a man dress in army type of uniform. The driver refused to stop and the man opened fire, puncturing the front tires and forcing the bus to come to a halt. All of a sudden shots (?rang) from all sides of the bus for about 10 minutes. Immediately after the shooting stopped, about 50 men, some dressed in army type of uniform, some civilian and barefooted, emerged from both sides of the road carrying arms. The surviving passengers were ordered to come out of the disabled bus and told to surrender their belongings, which included cash, watches and identity cards. The armed gang entered the bus and removed personal luggage of the passengers.

The survivors were ordered to walk to Kampala on foot. The armed gang then disappeared into the bush with their loot.

A UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] lorry fortunately arrived on the scene of the incident within a short time and army personnel assisted to carry the injured to (Kasona) dispensary where first aid treatment was given. The injured were later taken to Mulago hospital. Six of the injured were discharged from Mulago after treatment and 12 were admitted and are still receiving treatment in the hospital.

CAMEROON

Four Financial Agreements Signed With France

AB031945 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The Cameroon Government has signed four financial agreements worth 705 million CFA francs with the French Government through the French Fund for Assistance and Cooperation. Speaking at the signing ceremony, the minister of planning and industry, Dr Bole Alima, said the convention falls within the framework of cooperation agreements concluded in 1974 between France and Cameroon. The loan has been earmarked for the development of the rural sector and the improvement of the existing communications infrastructure.

CHAD

Reportage on Fighting in Gouro, Faya-Largeau

Habre Forces Capture Gouro

LD031336 Paris Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The important organization [as heard] of Gouro, where the Libyan Army gathered the bulk of its armaments, is reported to have fallen this morning to Hissein Habre's forces. This is unofficial information from Ndjamena which has not been officially confirmed yet. The OAU has just launched an urgent appeal to put an end to the fighting in Chad.

Gouro Recapture Denied

AB031445 Paris AFP in French 1407 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 3 August (AFP) — Idriss Debbi, commander-in-chief of the FANT Chadian National Armed Forces, on Wednesday denied rumors that the Chadian National Armed Forces had recaptured the district of Gouro, 250 kilometers north of Faya-Largeau. These rumors began circulating on Wednesday morning in Ndjamena. Questioned by AFP, Idriss Debbi replied that the rumors were "totally false."

Last week while the FANT had totally cut off radio contact and seemed to have disappeared into the desert before the attack on Faya-Largeau there were persistent rumors that Gouro had already been recaptured.

According to certain sources the FANT had gone round Faya-Largeau and were about to wipe out the enemy garrison after recapturing Gouro and Qunianga-Kebir on the route to Libya.

Libyan Air Attacks Continue

JN031806 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1718 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 3 Aug (SUNA) — The Chadian information minister has declared that the Libyan Air Force is still bombing the city of Faya-Largeau. He said that the three raids carried out by the Libyans this morning resulted in a large number of casualties and the destruction of houses in the city. He added that the government forces are taking all measures to minimize the casualties resulting from these bombings.

Addressing journalists here today, the minister said: The continuation of the bombings reveals the intentions of Libya. Realizing our weak ground defenses, Libya has continued its aggression to completely destroy our capabilities and reoccupy Faya-Largeau. The minister added: The situation is serious. The aid which is given to us must be commensurate with the real situation we are facing. The aid announced by countries friendly to Chad is useful, but not sufficient. Therefore, we appeal to France and the other friendly states to establish the presence of an air force to deter Libya, which is threatening Chad's existence and the safety of its territory. The reoccupation of Faya-Largeau and the destruction of our capabilities will threaten the interests of neighboring countries, France, and other friendly states.

The Chadian information minister pointed out that if France showed flexibility in its interpretation of the 1976 Cooperation Agreement in a manner commensurate with the nature of the current situation, there would be no need to consider the conclusion of a defense pact with it. The spirit of the cooperation agreement should enable us to confront Libyan aggression. The Chadian minister referred to Egypt's and Sudan's strong protest against Libyan aggression and said that they have given aid to the Chadian people. The minister again denied JANA's reports about the assassination of Hissein Habre and told the journalists that he was in contact this morning with President Habre, who is overseeing the military operations on the battlefront.

Diplomatic sources in Ndjamena said that planes are carrying military equipment from the capital to Faya-Largeau and bringing the the wounded from Faya-Largeau to the capital.

Phosphorous Bombs Used

JN031138 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1055 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 3 Aug (SUNA) — A French surgeon operating in the central hospital in the Chadian capital, Ndjamena, said that during their raids on Faya-largeau in northern Chad the aggressive Libyan forces used phosphorous bombs which cause horrific burning. The French surgeon said it is easy to see the results of these banned bombs.

It is to be noted that the Chadian Government forces regained the strategic city of Faya-Largeau following a fierce battle. This angered the Libyan regime and prompted it to use the internationally banned weapon. The government forces' wounded were transferred to the central hospital in Ndjamena to be treated for burns caused by the phosphorous bombs.

Goukouni Aides Killed, Captured

JN031100 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 3 Aug (SUNA) — (Mu'min Jamidi), assistant executive secretary of the Northern Armed Forces [FAN] Command Council and deputy chairman of the Chadian National

Consultative Council, announced here yesterday that Goukouni Oueddei's adviser, Kamougue's adviser, and the official in charge of foreign relations in Goukouni's fighting factions were all killed during the battles for Faya-Largeau.

The Chadian official explained that among those captured were the minister of education and culture, the minister of employment in Goukouni Oueddei's government, the former mayor of Ndjamena, the former director of the Chadian news agency, and two police officers.

GUNT Military Communique

AB031945 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] This is the latest military communique: From their new positions between (Kalaid) and Oum Chalouba in the eastern front, the soldiers and officers of the National Liberation Army [ANL] launched a vast counteroffensive against precise targets. It will not be long before we get favorable echoes from this counteroffensive. At the same time, after the definite recapture of Faya-Largeau by the ANL on Tuesday, 2 August, at 1500, the revolutionary forces of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] of Chad carried out a vast operation of automatic [word indistinct], area by area and rock by rock around the town.

Authorities Demand News Blackout on Weapons Aid

AB031915 Paris AFP in English 1854 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 3 (AFP) — The Chadian authorities today demanded a total "black-out" on information about the arrival here of anti-aircraft weapons supplied by France and the United States.

Journalists in the capital were not directly advised of the move, which amounts in fact to a censorship. They learned of it as they dictated their copy.

Post office employees said they had been given orders to cut communication as soon as they heard any reference to deliveries of the anti-aircraft equipment. They did not say who gave this order.

Communications with the outside world, already slow, were even slower today.

Government Denounces Soviet Role in Chad

AB031905 Paris AFP in English 1852 GMT 3 Aug 83

[By Christian Millet]

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 3 (AFP) — The regime of President Hissein Habre, which is fighting Libyan backed supporters of ex-President Goukouni Oueddei, is increasingly attacking the Soviet Union for its alleged role in Chad, charging that Moscow is pushing Libya to destabilize Africa to extend its hegemony.

Repeating his call to France, the United States and other governments backing the Habre regime to give direct air support, Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat today said those governments should understand that behind Libya stood "Soviet imperialism". "We are simply in the forefront, and a victory for Libyan and Soviet expansionism would be a blow to neighboring countries" he said.

Attacks by Chadian ministers on the Soviet Union's "social imperialism" have become increasingly frequent. At a demonstration organized here on Sunday to publicly present Libyan prisoners, thousands of voices chanted "Al-Qadhdhafi, Moscow's mule". This, Foreign Minister Idriss Miskine told AFP, was meant to say that the Soviet Union was using Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi for its own purposes.

Mr Miskine said there was no doubt that "it's the Russians who are arming the Libyans and pushing Al-Qadhdhafi to destabilize Africa to extend their hegemony. It suffices to read the statements of Soviet leaders and the daily commentaries of TASS news agency."

Numerous Western and African diplomats agreed with the information minister when he said two weeks ago that "the interests of the USSR and Libya coincide". This was why the United States had decided to give the Habre government military backing, one diplomat said.

The United States "has understood that Chad occupies a strategic position, that it can be an element of stability or stabilising base for the non-French speaking neighbours," he added.

A French diplomat said: "Washington considers that Paris has responsibilities in French-speaking Africa, but the case of Chad goes further."

Chad is seen as a central piece in the African Continent, linking Saharan Africa, the Sahel region in the west, and equatorial Africa, and as offering a possible opening to the Red Sea via Sudan, and thus to Saudi Arabia and the warm seas.

"That is the responsibility of the Americans. We look after French-speaking Africa," the French diplomat said.

Bardai Questions U.S., French Motives in Chad

AB031146 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] [Words indistinct] we are obliged to ask the following question: What are the United States and France really looking for in Chad? We must say that since these two powers succeeded in bringing their common agent to Ndjamena thanks to the peacekeeping force sent to our country, they have not spared any effort to impose on our people a regime in their pay. With the direct involvement in the fight of 2,000 Zairian soldiers and 6 Zairian fighter bombers whose open intervention is financially and materially supported by the United States and France, with the dispatch to Chad of a large number of American, French,

Israeli, and Sudanese mercenaries, and especially with the suicidal attack launched by this foreign legion against the town of Faya-Largeau, the war in Chad has now taken a new and particularly serious (?turn) not only for Chad but also for peace in Africa and the world. What is worst is that this massive dispatch of men and war materials by France and the United States constitutes a veritable challenge to the international community.

In fact, despite the recommendations of the Executive Bureau of the third OAU summit conference, France and the United States continue to send all sorts of arms to Ndjamena at a frantic pace and they are doing this under all sorts of pretexts. The last serious act committed by these two NATO powers following the military stalemate involving their soldiers sent to their death in Faya-Largeau is their increased delivery of sophisticated war materials to save their besieged foreign legion which is threatened with annihilation.

At the same time, the U.S.Government has launched unprecedented verbal terrorism against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. [passage indistinct]

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Tribunal Sentences Four Coup Plotters to Death

AB031340 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] Four of the nine persons found guilty of conspiring to commit a crime and preparing to overthrow the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] government last 16 June have been sentenced to death by firing squad by the public tribunal in Accra.

They are Captain Edward Adjei-Ampofo, former aide-de-camp of the late I.K. Akyeampong; Lieutenant Colonel Ekow Dennis; Major Joseph Boateng-Okyere retired; and ex-Warrant Officer II Joseph Osae-Kwakye. Three others, Sergeant Charles Fofie, Corporal Kwasi Derbrah, and Lance Corporal Hans Darko have been served with various jail terms. Sgt Fofie and Cpl Derbrah will each spend 18 years in jail, while Lance Cpl Darkwa gets 6 years.

Two of the accused, Colonel Sampson Nyame-Bekyere and Private S.K. Amponsah-Dadzie, were acquitted and discharged. All the accused persons with the exception of Capt Ampofo and Lt Col Dennis, who are on the run, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

NIGERIA

AFP Previews Weekend Presidential Elections

AB040940 Paris AFP in English 0859 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Lagos, Aug. 4 (AFP) — As Nigeria's 65 million voters await the opening of their country's month-long five-tier presidential and general elections on Saturday, the Federal Electoral Commission (FEDECO), the sole umpire on electoral matters, has given the assurance that it was equal to the task. The commission said that it had completed most of the arrangements towards ensuring hitch-free elections. These included security and communications arrangements which the commission described as "solid".

FEDECO said that it would announce the results of Saturday's presidential polls 48 hours after voting ended. Its only headache, apparently, is the delay in delivery of 400,000 lanterns ordered for use at the polling stations. Polling is expected to end by 6.00 pm, just when it gets dark in most of this vast West African country. Because of its decision to count votes on the spot at polling stations, FEDECO has said that it will ask polling officials to take their lanterns along to the booths if the shipment failed to arrive by today. There have been reports that some of the country's six registered political parties have been buying and storing lamps on their own initiative just in the case FEDECO fails to supply lighting equipment.

The commission's chairman, Justice Victor Ovie-Whiskey, is expected to make a nation-wide broadcast tomorrow (Friday) on FEDECO's general state of preparedness to conduct the polls.

Meanwhile as the three-month election campaign ended in compliance with electoral regulations stipulating that all electioneering must cease 48 hours of the first balloting, political parties have been reviewing their campaigns in the 19 federated states. Supporters of the ruling National Party of Nigeria (NPN) do not hide their confidence in the party's presidential flag-bearer, incumbent President Shehu Shagari, to win Saturday's race. At the same time they realise that two of the opposition candidates pose a challenge to their party's hold on power.

Members of Chief Obafemi Awolowo's Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN) think of the chief ("Awo") as the best alternative after four years of the Shagari executive, and they are only waiting for Saturday to prove this through the ballot box. Although UPN supporters are confident that "Awo" can win the first ballot without a run-off, they are also prepared for a two-sided second-round battle between President Shagari and the chief.

The same confidence can be found among the followers of Nnamdi Azikiwe — "Zik" — the veteran politician and former national president who now leads the Nigerian People's Party (NPP). "Zik" and "Awo" have tried to form an electoral alliance of their two parties, but this now seems to have failed, to the relief of the NPN. Zik, now 79, has dismissed last-minute press speculation that he intended to step down from the presidential race for health reasons. He told a press conference that he was still very much in the race and that he intended to institute legal action against a government-owned newspaper for giving a false impression about his state of health.

Also in the race against the three major parties are the other "weak three" [words indistinct] to have disintegrated after the death last April of its founder and presidential candidate Mallam Aminu Kano. The Great Nigeria People's Party (GNPP), led by Tycoon Waziri Ibrahim, had also lost many of its followers and looks as though it may not be able to keep the two states it won in the 1979 elections. And inspite of its richness in revolutionary sloganeering, the rating of Nigeria Advance Party (NAP), headed by Lagos lawyer Tunji Braithwaite, does not appear to be any brighter.

ANGOLA

Sao Tome President in Transit in Luanda

MB040851 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 04 Aug 83

[Text] Manuel Pinto da Costa, president of Sao Tome and Principe, has been in Luanda since yesterday on transit to his country. President Pinto da Costa is traveling from the People's Republic of China where he made an official visit. Comrades Lucio Lara, Juliao Mateus Dino Matross, and Evaristu Domingos Kimba, members of the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau, and officials of the presidency of the republic welcomed the Sao Tome and Principe president on his arrival at the 4 February International Airport.

AFP: UNITA Surrounds Government, Cuban Brigades

AB041150 Paris AFP in English 1144 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Lisbon, Aug. 4 (AFP) — The Angolan opposition movement UNITA today claimed to have surrounded two government army brigades and one brigade of Cuban troops in Cangumbe, in the eastern Province of Moxico.

UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola), which is fighting to overthrow the ruling MPLA government in Luanda, said it had deployed 10,000 men in a "generalised offensive" in five Angolan provinces since the beginning of the month.

Since Monday it had killed 158 government soldiers and 15 Cubans as well as brigning down a MIG-21 jet over Cangumbe, according to a UNITA statement sent to the AFP bureau here.

The statement said UNITA had recaptured positions it had lost in Kwanza-Sul Province on the Atlantic coast, including a training school for government security agents.

The latest offensive was in Moxico, Lunda, Malange, Huambo and Kwanza-Sul Provinces, UNITA said.

BOTSWANA

President Masire Pledges To Promote SADCC

MB021330 Gaborone Botswana Daily News in English 22 Jul 83 p 1

[By Odirile Gabasiane]

[Excerpt] Gaborone, July 14: The president, Dr Q.K.J. Masire, has said that despite the nature and magnitude of problems that faced the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), Botswana has pledged to do everything possible to promote the noble objectives of the economic grouping. The president was speaking when he received letters of credence from the high commissioner of the Republic of Malawi, Mr W.S. Khoza, this afternoon.

Dr Masire said the "given the determination of the SADCC countries and the goodwill of our partners, there is every reason to hope for eventual success." The president pointed that he appreciated Malawi's support in the endeavour to bring about a just solution to the problem of southern Africa.

He further said: "Despite the concerted efforts of the frontline states, the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations, Namibia is still to achieve independence and self determination, majority rule and social justice. We owe it to humanity," he said, "and to ourselves to promote the cause of freedom and justice in this region."

The president conveyed through the high commissioner, to the life president of Malawi, Dr H. Kamuzu Banda, the government and people of Malawi, sentiments of friendship and high esteem as well as best wishes, continued good health for HE K. Banda, and prosperity of the people of Malawi.

LESOTHO

'Large' Car Bomb Explosion Rocks Maseru

MB041147 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1138 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Maseru, Lesotho, Aug 4, SAPA — A large car bomb explosion rocked Maseru at lunchtime today.

It was not immediately know whether anybody was injured or killed in the blast.

No Casualties Reported

MB041155 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] A bomb blast took place and completely destroyed a motor vehicle near the offices of the Ministry of Education in Maseru at about 1240 this afternoon. No casualites have been reported, and investigations are continuing.

Further Details

MB041232 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1157 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Maseru, Aug 4, SAPA — A big car bomb explosion rocked the Lesotho capital, Maseru, at lunchtime today. It is not known whether anybody was injured or killed in the explosion, which shook people in the capital.

The powerful explosion was heard at about 12:45 pm as hundreds of civil servants began leaving their offices for lunch. The blast shattered many windows in adjacent buildings. Outside some of the building pieces of timber were strewn on the ground.

The car was completely demolished. Eyewitnesses said pieces of metal from the car were flung into the air after the blast. It exploded in one of Maseru's main streets, Constitution Road, not

far from the headquarters of the Ministry of Education, and behind the city's main shopping centre and the Victoria Hotel.

MALAWI

President Banda Officially Opens Parliament

MB031720 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has characterized the situation in the country as one of continued political stability, self-sufficiency in food, and ever improving relations with neighboring countries. The life president said this today in Zomba when he performed the state opening of parliament.

Elaborating on stability, the life president stressed that as a developing country Malawi needs peace and calm, law and order. He explained that this must originate from the people themselves and not be forced by the security forces. The life president said he is happy that peace and calm, law and order in this country generate from the people and that is why they endure. His excellency recalled that since he came back home in 1958 his first call has always been that of unity among the people of the country as opposed to what he called a collection of quarreling tribes that the people were in colonial times. The life president then revealed that it is because people have observed the four cornerstones of unity, loyalty, obedience, and discipline that peace and calm, law and order have prevailed.

On food, the ngwazi reiterated his belief that whatever his people may not have, at least they should have food, followed by the other basic essentials, such as good clothes and houses that do not leak. His excellency said, fortunately for us in this country, for the past few years we have had enough food. The life president explained that this is because, apart from taking farming seriously, people in certain districts of the country had also started growing maize, which is the staple food of the people of this country.

His excellency also said as a result of the intense farming activities in the country, people no longer go abroad in search of employment, because agricultural companies have absorbed large numbers of our people. The overall result is that people now dress well and sleep in decent houses, he stressed.

On relations with our neighbors, the ngwazi said these continue to be good, as evidenced by official visits exchanged by the people of the countries. The life president said this is as it should be, because the people of Malawi and those of the neighboring countries of Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zambia are one.

Speaking later at State House, after being entertained to traditional dances by members of the Women's League, his excellency the life president said he was glad because his people throughout the country are happy. He explained that the people are happy throughout the country because they have the three basic essentials of adequate food, good clothes, and decent houses which do not leak. He said that this is what he wants, that whatever else his people might lack, at least they must have those basic necessities.

The life president said he was happy because, while before independence the people used to live in mud huts with thatched roofs which leaked, the situation has now improved much for the better. He said this is because the people have listened to his appeals to work hard in the fields, as a result of which they sell their crops from which they obtain plenty of money with which they build decent houses and buy better clothes, while at the same time affording a balanced diet.

In their remarks at the State House, the regional chairman of the party in the south, Mr Edward Bwanali, who is also the minister of transport and communications, and the district party chairman of the Women's League in Zomba, Mrs (Akudah), thanked the life president for developing this country beyond recognition. The two party officials said all the development which was taking place in the country was due to the wise and dynamic leadership of the life president.

Zambian Foreign Minister Concludes 2-Day Visit

MB031750 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The Zambian minister of foreign affairs, Professor Lameck Goma, left the country today at the end of his 2-day official visit to Malawi. During the visit, Professor Goma delivered a special message to the life president from President Kenneth Kaunda. During the visit, Professor Goma also visited a number of development projects in the Thyolo and Mulanje districts.

MOZAMBIQUE

President Machel Arrives in Zambezia Province

MB031533 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] President Samora Machel arrived in Quelimane town, Zambezia Province a short while ago. The visit of the Mozambique head of state to that province is part of the promise he made on 19 July at a mass rally where he introduced the new Zambezia leader, Mario Machungo.

Officials Welcome Machel

MB031801 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] President Samora Machel arrived in Quelimane town this afternoon for a working visit to Zambezia Province. The visit of President Samora Machel comes in the wake of his promise made on 19 July at a mass rally where he introduced Mario Machungo, the Zambezia leader, who is also a member of the Frelimo Party.

At Quelimane Airport the Mozambique head of state was welcomed by the Zambezia leader, Mario Machungo; the second party secretary, Major General Bonifacio Gruveta; and other

party and state officials in that province. During the drive from the airport to his official residence President Samora Machel was warmly greeted by a huge crowd.

Machel Receives Zambian Minister

MB040930 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] President Samora Machel, who began a working visit to Zambezia Province yesterday, received Professor Lameck Goma, minister of foreign affairs of Zambia, in Quelimane yesterday. The head of Zambian diplomacy, who was accompanied by the Zambian ambassador to Mozambique, delivered a message from President Kenneth Kaunda to the supreme leader of the Mozambique revolution.

State Appeals Decision on British Pilot

MB021259 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] The British pilot of a South African plane, who has been sentenced to 6 months in jail by a Mozambican court, is to be retried in Maputo by Mozambique's Supreme Court. Clive Costello was sentenced last Friday in Nampula Provincial Court after having been found guilty of making false statements to the Mozambican authorities. The Nampula court judge gave Costello the option of paying a fine of $5,400 as an alternative to going to prison. The state has appealed the decision.

Today's edition of *Noticias* gave a detailed report of the 2-day trial in Nampula. Evidence was presented that Costello had been refused permission to land at Nampula days before he actually made the flight from the Comoro Islands. He went ahead with the flight and requested permission to land. He then lied about having run out of fuel. When he was detained after his plane landed illegally he offered to pay airport authorities the equivalent of about $1,000 to solve the problem.

National Resistance General Staff Communique

MB031300 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 1700 GMT 2 Aug 83

["War communique" from General Staff of Mozambique National Resistance — date not given]

[Text] In Tete Province on 22 June 1983 we sabotaged telephone wires along the Mutarara-Moatize railroad in the (Mussipe) area.

On 24 June our forces ambushed a military vehicle which was transporting some Frelimo forces from Angonia to Tete in the Agua Boa area. The Frelimo military vehicle was totally destroyed, several officers of the Maputo troops were liquidated in that action, one officer was seriously injured. We also captured 2 pistols, 2 AK-47's, 12 other small arms, and several documents.

In Zambezia Province on 24 June 1983 our glorious combatants attacked the [word indistinct] enemy position in (Tangur) area. The Maputo forces were forced to flee, leaving behind two dead colleagues. We also seized three SKS rifles, one AK-47 rifle, and other war equipment.

In Manica Province, on 15 May, we once again sabotaged and destroyed two pylons and the Revue high-tension electric line, which supplies power to Chimoio. On 17 June one armored vehicle of the Zimbabwean mercenaries detonated an anti-vehicle landmine near the border with Zimbabwe at Maindurai. It was completely destroyed. Some of its occupants were able to leave the vehicle, but they were immediately attacked and liquidated. After this action, we captured 6 AK-47 rifles, 8 RPG-7 shells and 12 60-mm mortar shells.

On 22 June we fought a battle with the Machel regime's rats in the (Bomba) area, (Nhambuirira) region. The Maputo regime rabble was immediately forced to flee. However, it must be stressed that they had gone to the place with the criminal objective of laying landmines at the well from where the local residents draw their water. Once again our glorious forces foiled the criminal plans of the enemies of the people.

On 25 June 1983, we attacked the enemy location of Boa Vista, where we inflicted heavy losses on the Frelimo enemy. In this action, a militiaman called (Antonio Fandale) gave himself up to our soldiers.

Also on 25 June, our liberation forces attacked the enemy position at (Mucondezi), in Vanduzi, where nine Frelimo soldiers were exterminated. We also seized one A76 radio transmitter, one RPG-7, seven AK-47 rifles, and other equipment and documents.

In Manica Province another member of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique surrendered to our army. He was disappointed with the life of terror and war of the Machel regime troops. He is called (Jose Paulo). He comes from (Tuzuru), in Chimoio. He was forced to join the rabble of the army of the rats last year. By deciding to desert, he has opted for freedom and peace of conscience. (Jose Paulo) had been among a group of enemy elements who had been ordered to murder any members of the public who were living outside the communal village in the area. His own parents were among the people who were living outside the communal village. (Jose Paulo) was ordered to murder his own people and his family.

In Sofala Province, on 25 May 1983, we fought a battle with Frelimo forces in the Noventa area. Having been beaten off, the enemy fled in disarray. We seized 6 shells, 1 RPG-7, 12 82-mm mortar shells, 1 case of handgrenades, 13 AK-47 rifles, and AK-47 ammunition.

On 4 June 1983 we attacked the Frelimo enemy in (Bavapipi). The Machel regime forces did not respond to our fire. In their flight in disarray, they abandoned one RPG-7 and seven RPG-7 rockets.

On 7 June 1983 one military transport vehicle of the Frelimo rats hit an anti-vehicle landmine in the Farma area in Guara-Guara, Buzi.

In this action several armed rats were liquidated, including the manager of Buzi sugar factory. On 16 June we once again attacked the Frelimo position at Inhaminga with mortars. We destroyed some military installations and liquidated five soldiers of the Machel regime.

On 29 June 1983 one Frelimo military vehicle detonated an antivehicle landmine on the (Nhachiconja) road, in (Muquinbir) area, Buzi. The vehicle of the Maputo forces was completely destroyed. The three enemy soldiers traveling in it were killed.

In Inhambane Province, on 25 June, we attacked the enemy position at (Muchinhanane). It was totally destroyed. Many enemy soldiers were killed and wounded among the Frelimo hordes. We immediately collected the abandoned equipment left behind by the fleeing Machel regime forces. We collected 54 automatic rifles including AK-47's, G-3's, PPSh's, and several other items of war.

On the same day we attacked the enemy position at Manhique, where the Machel forces were forced to flee, having lost seven men. They abandoned three AK-47 rifles, two PPSh'stwo G-3 rifles, AK-47 ammunition, two RPG-7's and their rockets, and many other military items.

In Gaza Province on 2 June 1983 our forces fought a battle with the Machel regime forces. We captured one Mauser rifle, one PPSh, four AK-47 rifles, one case of AK-47 ammunition, two (?acoustic) landmines, one antivehicle landmine, and other war equipment.

On 10 June 1983 in (Diminingo) area, we ambushed a tractor transporting a number of armed rats (?traveling toward the Sizale area). The enemy retreated, having suffered heavy casualties in dead and wounded. We immediately seized nine Hungarian weapons, two cases of AK-47 ammunition, and one RPG-7.

On 23 June 1983, our forces ambushed and burned a freight train in Mabalane area.

On 27 June another train with 12 freight cars, which was going to tow away the wreckage of the first one, was also destroyed.

In Maputo Province on 22 June we shelled the enemy position at Mapulanguene, where our forces liquidated three Frelimo rats, wounded scores of others, and destroyed several military installations. On 11 July 1983 we also destroyed two water pumps which were supplying water to an enemy base [words indistinct].

War against the enemy of the people, and death to the betrayers of the fatherland. The struggle continues.

NAMIBIA

No Van Niekerk Response to SWAPO Call for Talks

MB031143 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 3 Aug 83 p 4

[By Tony Weaver]

[Text] Windhoek — The administrator-general [a-g] of South-West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, has yet to respond to a statement by SWAPO's internal wing calling for direct negotiations between the movement, South Africa and the a-g himself.

The dramatic SWAPO statement, issued at the weekend, was the first public statement issued by the internal wing of the movement in over four years, and followed talks held two weeks ago in Gaborone between internal and external members of the movement.

A spokesman for Dr Van Niekerk said yesterday neither he nor his top aide, Mr Sean Cleary, were available for comment.

The SWAPO statement called on the a-g and the South African Government to begin immediate and direct negotiations with SWAPO on the signing of a ceasefire agreement.

It also called for a speedy implementation of an internationally recognised settlement for the war-torn territory and for the repealing of security legislation under which senior internal SWAPO leaders are banned and SWAPO meetings in South-West Africa prohibited.

The statement described the state council plan, which now seems doomed to failure, as "another neo-colonial attempt by the South African Government to dig itself in over Namibia".

SWAPO also rejected the linkage of the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as part of the preconditions for the implementation of an international settlement in the territory.

The statement, issued by the recently elected vice-president, Pastor Hendrik Witbooi, was the latest in a series of moves which have strengthened the internal wing of the party in relation to the external wing.

Mr Witbooi's election to the second-most powerful position in the movement by a SWAPO Central Committee meeting in Cuanza Sol Province in Angola on April 20 was the first indication of the enhanced status of the internal wing.

He was elected not only by Central Committee members, but also by 138 delegates from the Peoples' Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, SWAPO's military wing, and additional representatives of SWAPO in exile.

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Urges No Aggravation of Unemployment

MB040908 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, has made an urgent appeal to employer and employee organizations to exercise great care so as not to aggravate the unemployment problem. Addressing a banquet of the National Productivity Institute in Johannesburg, Mr Botha said that inflation and increasing unemployment were some of the serious and difficult economic problems facing South Africa. There was a deep recession which went hand in hand with declining employment levels and this, coupled with the rapid population growth, had increased unemployment substantially.

Mr Botha said that something the country could not afford was an excessively high rate of mechanization which was not necessarily related to higher productivity, but which would put unskilled and semiskilled labor out of work. The prime minister said it was not a healthy state of affairs that productivity in the manufacturing sector last year had dropped by 2 percent while earnings per worker had increased by about 20 percent.

Official Says Homeland Consolidation Too Slow

MB041012 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0800 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Potchefstroom, Aug 4, SAPA — Plans for the consolidation of Bophuthatswana were not being implemented at a fast enough rate, a Mmabatho government official said here last night. Delivering an address at the University of Potchefstroom, Bophuthatswana's minister of local government and housing, Mr S.L.L. Rathebe, said administration "across fragmented pieces of land" was very difficult. It reduced efficiency and increased costs, Mr Rathebe told the university's institute for political and African studies.

Bophuthatswana and South Africa had agreed before independence that plans for consolidation would be continually reviewed. However, "the pace of implementation on that side is out of alignment with the degree of urgency on our side of the border," the minister said. He lauded the establishment of the development bank of southern Africa as "a genuine attempt to lay a firm foundation for the .... development" of the region.

Security Along Transkei Border Increased

MB021453 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] The police have announced that security measures at Matatiele on the border between Transkei and South Africa have been intensified, as Lesotho citizens are entering South Africa at this point. A senior police spokesman said that all people entering South Africa from Lesotho are being investigated and that this process sometimes takes over 2 weeks.

Mr L. Brink, chairman of the Matatiele Chamber of Commerce, has said the stepped up border controls are having an adverse effect on the town's trade.

Five Held in Maputo Return, One Awaits Retrial

MB021952 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1930 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] Five of the six passengers of a South African-registered light airplane held in Mozambique since the aircraft landed there without permission in June have returned to South Africa. The pilot of the aircraft, Mr Clive Costello, is still being held by the Mozambican authorities and is awaiting a retrial in Maputo. He was earlier fined 6,000 rand by a magistrate, but the state had appealed against his sentence and it had been decided to give him a retrial.

Details of Trial Cited

MB030800 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] A man freed by Mozambique authorities yesterday has made startling claims about trial procedures in the northern town of Nampula. South African David Tooch was among a group of five people who were released yesterday after 37 days in detention.

They were arrested after their plane made an unathorized landing in Nampula. Tooch says that at the trial of the pilot of the plane, Clive Ciastula of Britain, the public prosecutor withdrew the charge of making false statements to Mozambique authorities. He says despite this the Popular Tribunal judge went ahead with the case and sentenced Ciastula to 6 months in prison or a fine of about 6,000 rand. Tooch says the prosecutor has noted an appeal in a higher court in Maputo. The five men who returned to Durban yesterday described the whole episode as a misunderstanding.

ANC Member Denounces RSA Actions Against Lesotho

MB040812 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] The African National Congress [ANC] of South Africa has denounced the Pretoria regime's aggressive tactics against Lesotho. Comrade (Don Ngubeni) of the ANC's information department told ZIANA in Harare yesterday that Lesotho is being trapped in an economic blockade by the Pretoria regime. He said South Africa is even threatening to repatriate Lesotho workers when the regime knows fully well that Lesotho depends on the earnings of these people for foreign exchange. Comrade (Ngubeni) said apartheid-ruled South Africa wants to pretend that Lesotho is harboring ANC guerrillas, yet it is the Pretoria regime itself which is doing this.

ANC Refutes Police Findings on Pretoria Blast

MB031932 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] The ANC has refuted the findings of the police investigation into the Pretoria bomb explosion in May. An ANC statement released in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, has denied that two ANC saboteurs were among the 19 killed in the blast. The organization has also dismissed a South African Security Police claim that the sabotuers were convicted criminals hired to plant the bomb.

Police said in Pretoria yesterday that two saboteurs who planted the bomb were killed when it exploded prematurely.

SWAZILAND

National Council Meets; Dismissals Rumored

MB040924 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] The Swazi Supreme National Council, known as Liqoqo, is meeting at the Royal Palace at Lobamba this morning to discuss alleged differences in government circles over the structure of the monarchy. Our Africa desk reports that rumors are circulating in Mbabane that certain important members of the Liqoqo, including a Cabinet minister, have been dismissed.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Warns Party Leaders Against Misconduct

MB041021 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Aug 83

[Text] President Kaunda has warned that any party leader who indulges in favors in office for personal or private gain, corrupt or capitalist practices risks being thrown out. Officially opening the fourth Lusaka provincial party council at [word indistinct] today, Dr Kaunda said a party leader would be deemed as having himself created conditions for his removal from office. Calling for effective leadership within the party, President Kaunda said leadership played an important role in any organization of human beings.

Dr Kaunda, who called for the strengthening of the registration drive at ward, village, and district levels, said since [words indistinct] with a majority of votes, it was the party's duty to assist the people to choose good leaders. The president urged the leaders gathered at (Funde) to lead their people toward agricultural development and added that not only maize should be sown but food crops as well.

Dr Kaunda also unveiled a plaque on a memorial cairn in (Tongwe) in memory of youth who lost their lives in the country's struggle for independence. In another scene, he opened a monument dedicated to the Zambia National Service Force and others who were lost during the liberation war for the winning of the independence of Zimbabwe. The monument is at the Lusaka provincial offices inside (Tongwe) east of Lusaka, and at the unveiling ceremony, Dr Kaunda today also marked the adoption of the site as a permanent venue for the Lusaka provincial party conference. The site will be attached to the nearby Zambia National Service Force.

ZIMBABWE

HERALD Views SADCC Invitation to RSA Allies

MB021433 Harare The Herald in English 13 Jul 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Honest Exchange"]

[Text] South Africa is today the leper of the progressive world. The racists are aware of this, but they will not care a damn as long as they know their Western allies will continue to give them pillar support with capital, technology, management skills and deadly weapons with which to plunder and terrorise this region.

The invitation by SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] members meeting in Maputo on Monday to countries that support South Africa to attend the next SADCC conference in Zambia later this year is therefore very significant in many respects.

For a long time not only SADCC leaders but those of the OAU have appealed to the Western countries, which no doubt support South Africa, to put pressure on the regime in Pretoria to change its violent attitude and accept realistic change.

But, alas, the appeals were like cries in the wilderness.

It could well be that they were construed as a sign of weakness and cowardice. Nothing could be further from the truth. The appeals arose out of a genuine desire to save lives and create a climate of peace and stability in the region.

The Western countries, while feebly denying that they supported South Africa, have repeatedly spoken out in favour of negotiation in a search for peaceful change in that country.

The SADCC conference in Lusaka will offer an excellent opportunity for the West and the hosts to exchange their views honestly on this thorny issue.

The situation should not be allowed to continue where with one hand a country arms the SADCC's enemy while stretching out the other to seek political favours from the same organization. The SADCC needs all-weather friends: not chameleons.

Claim of Peace in Matabeleland Challenged

MB021135 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] *The Herald* of 20 June features "Peace Once More" in its leading article. I saw that the editor of our government-controlled national newspaper gives support to the government's campaign to stamp out dissention in Matabeleland. It states schools have

reopened, development projects are being resumed, curfews are being lifted, and people can now travel about the area almost freely. So, peace and normality have returned. It has the cause of the dissension being removed. True, force has been effectively used. A campaign of harassment, torture, killings, and atrocities has apparently paid off. The people are on the surface cooperative, submissive, well disciplined, and, as the leading article points out, the bandit problem is being reduced to insignificance.

Why then does the prime minister not set up an independent commission of inquiry to clear the government security forces of the many, many allegations against them? Now would be the right time to do this, and it would only be fair to the officers and men of the security forces. If we have peace once more, why does the government not lift its state of emergency and ease the harsh security laws? Why does it not release political or other detainees acquitted by the courts? Why does the government not establish an interparty commission to examine the real cause of this dissension in a genuine and whole-hearted effort to establish unity, peace, and progress? We suggest that normality cannot return as a permanent feature of our national life, unless and until, all these things are done. We don't want a situation where only some of the people can travel about any area almost freely — all must be able to travel about completely freely.

Radio Truth Says Refugees Murdered, Tortured

MB031149 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 1700 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] The acting president of ZAPU, Mr Chinamano, has called on the regime to guarantee the safety of all refugees being returned from Botswana. Mr Chinamano says that until the regime gives such a pledge his party will continue to warn genuine refugees to remain in Botswana.

What Mr Chinamano didn't say, but though he and the regime know, is that several high-ranking ZAPU leaders were murdered out of hand the minute they crossed the border back into Zimbabwe. Others were hidden away in ZANU-PF detention camps, where they were being beaten and tormured daily. In one case, that of the man, who is nearly 60, has been tortured so badly that he is permanently crippled and almost blind.

Senator (John Shoniwa) says that the Refugees Bill now before the Senate for consideration is designed to help genuine refugees, not criminals. Mr (Shoniwa) mentioned one South African, an ANC member who is seeking refugee status, and said that this man's case was being sympathetically considered because he is fleeing South African antiterrorist laws. Since the ANC has claimed responsibility for the bomb blast in Pretoria on May 20, which killed 19 people and maimed hundreds of others, even Radio Truth would judge this man as a criminal rather than a fleeing refugee. Maybe we operate on different moral plains, then.